APPLICATION SPOTLIGHT—Utilities

INSPECTION FOR METHANE LEAKS IN A COMBINED CYCLE

QUICKLY AND SAFELY INSPECT FOR METHANE LEAKS AND HEATING ISSUES RELATED TO ELECTRICAL/MECHANICAL APPLICATIONS

THE CUSTOMER'S CHALLENGE

POWER PLANT

Natural gas fired power plants are becoming more prominent simply because they are less expensive to build, are very efficient and produce less pollution than plants run by coal, as an example. When using methane gas, it is very important to have a regular predictive maintenance plan that includes an inspection of components such as compressors, valves, and other hardware.

Traditional methane leak detection methods are costly, time consuming and are not a reliable way of finding the source of a given leak. Whether it is a sniffer, bubble test, or laser technology, all of these methods have set up time and specific limitations that can put a predictive maintenance technician in harm's way and impact the company's bottom line.

Another challenge for customers is making sure there are no electrical or mechanical systems producing an extreme amount of heat, with an unnoticed leak this could cause an explosion, putting people and property at risk.

A SOLUTION

With more and more natural gas fired power plants coming online, it is important for predicative maintenance professionals to have the right tools to keep the plant running safely and efficiently. The uncooled GF77 infrared camera is the ideal solution: it's spectrally-filtered to visualize methane gas leaks as well as other industrial gases, allowing inspectors to quickly survey large areas for signs of gas leaks. Because the detector doesn't require a microcooler, the GF77 is lighter, quicker to load, and more affordable than cooled gas-detection cameras. The ergonomic design, 180° rotating block and eyepiece make it comfortable to use, while advanced features like GPS tagging and streamlined reporting help put time back in an inspector's day.

THE RESULTS

Adding the GF77 to your predictive maintenance plan will help quickly identify methane gas leaks and also allow the user to detect any electrical/mechanical heat issues using its thermal imaging capabilities. As part of an effective predictive maintenance program, the GF77 will help protect the environment while avoiding product losses and ensuring a safer work environment.

For more information about FLIR in electric power generation or to schedule a product demonstration visit: www.flir.com/power-generation

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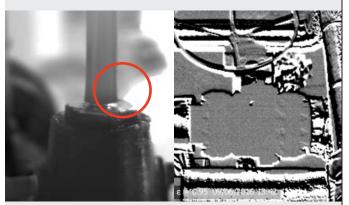








Regular inspections of components such as compressors, valves, and other hardware are vital to properly maintaining equipment and ensuring safety at natural gas fired power



Thermal image of combined cycle unit shows a methane leak.

High Sensitivity Mode improves visibility on small



