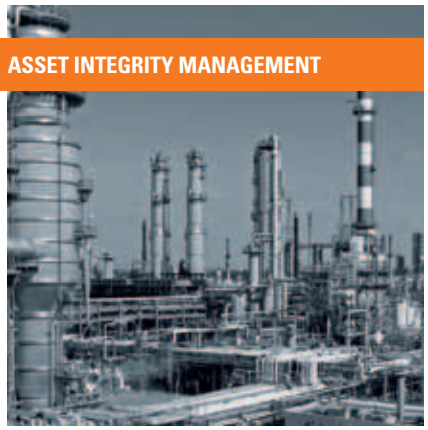
ASSET INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT



CASE STUDIES

SGS BEGAN A LARGE BASELINE IMPLEMENTATION INSPECTION PROJECT WITH A CLIENT IN 2004. DURING THE COURSE OF WORKING THE PROJECT SGS RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR A SYSTEM THAT WOULD PROCESS THE IDENTIFIED RECOMMENDATIONS MORE EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

SGS met the challenge with the development of the Recommendation Tracking System (RTS). RTS exceeded the expectations of the client by reducing the cost to process the recommendations while at the same time prioritizing, tracking and documenting the findings and closure of the recommendations. The increased awareness of the conditions and practices that can lead to failure as communicated by this system has by this clients testimony more than paid for the inspection program by shifting them from reactive to proactive maintenance practices. The value of this system was recently recognized by that company by being nominated for its' yearly award that is given to the most value adding innovation of the year. This company is a listed in the top ten of Forbes Global 2000 ranking for the worlds largest publicly traded companies.

SGS WAS CHALLENGED WITH PERFORMING RETRO PMI FOR ONE OF ITS' LONG TIME REFINING CLIENTS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF NON-CONFORMING MATERIAL COMPONENTS IN CRITICAL PIPING SYSTEMS.

Once the full task was understood SGS adapted it's PipeWrx technology to the meet the challenge. What resulted was an approach so unique and value adding that it was granted a US patent. The SGS PMI system allows the user to efficiently gather extremely large quantities of data and subsequently analyze the data with detail not available with other systems. The result is that instead of using the typical approach of go/no-go the SGS system gives the user flexibility to categorize non-conforming materials based on the specific alloy content of that material. This allowed the refinery to replace only 3 % of the 7% non-conforming components. The remaining components were either reclassified or monitored based on the service conditions and the alloy content. The cost of the PMI program was a small fraction of the savings netted by not having to replace all of the non-conforming components. Additionally, the after being audited by the clients MI auditing group the SGS PMI program was praised as one of the most comprehensive approaches to the problem challenge of PMI for critical piping systems.

AFTER AN EXPLOSION DUE TO A PIPING RELATED FAILURE SGS WAS CALLED IN TO HELP PERFORM A SUITABILITY FOR SERVICE ANALYSIS OF THE SUBJECT FACILITY LOCATED IN ENGLAND.

The analysis involved the inspection and review of more than 20,000 piping circuits. The inspection identified multiple conditions that could have led to subsequent catastrophic failures at the facility. These conditions were addressed by the facility which was later put back into operation, once the government officials were satisfied with the condition of the facility. The inspection was hailed by those responsible for the re-commissioning of the facility as a daunting task that was completed with the highest level of competency and professionalism.

SGS IS THE GLOBAL LEADER AND INNOVATOR IN INSPECTION, VERIFICATION, TESTING AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES. FOUNDED IN 1878, SGS IS RECOGNISED AS THE GLOBAL BENCHMARK IN QUALITY AND INTEGRITY. WITH 59,000 EMPLOYEES, SGS OPERATES A NETWORK OF OVER 1,000 OFFICES AND LABORATORIES AROUND THE WORLD.

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