Gulf South Pipeline Cuts Oil-Cleaning Costs

Spinner II[®] Centrifuges Quadruple Filter Life



Scenario

Gulf South Pipeline operates a pumping station in Clarence, Louisiana, for a natural gas pipeline. Compressors at the station are driven by three Ingersoll-Rand KVR-410 engines. Each engine uses standard full-flow media filters and stacked-disc elements for lube oil filtration. Based on differential pressure drop, Gulf South was changing full-flow filters every week, with 15 filters per change.

In ongoing efforts to improve the costeffectiveness of their operation, Gulf South investigated other filtration technologies. Officials hoped to extend their filter change intervals while maintaining or improving oil cleanliness.



Solution

Gulf South Maintenance Supervisor Lanny Blake invited representatives from Spinner II Products to the company's Reliability Council Roundtable. This led to an exhaustive evaluation of Spinner II oil cleaning centrifuges. The assessment included proper sizing of centrifuges for their application and proof that the centrifuge removed harmful contaminants while helping preserve the effectiveness of the lube oil additive package.

Gulf South agreed to install three Spinner II CX systems, each consisting of four manifolded Model 3600 centrifuges operating in parallel.



Results

The Spinner II centrifuge systems demonstrated immediate results. According to Lanny Blake, Gulf South improved from one-week to four-week filter change intervals. "We expect that, with an overhaul and new oil, we should easily achieve a two-month filter change," says Blake.

According to oil analysis reports, oil cleanliness improved significantly following installation of the Spinner II centrifuge systems.

Gulf South Pipeline has dramatically reduced the costs of filters, oil and labor associated with oil changes. Annual savings are estimated at up to \$50,000 per year. With fewer oil changes, maintenance technicians are free to address other needs, improving the overall effectiveness of the maintenance program.

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