



CASE STUDY

INDUSTRY: HEALTHCARE



CUSTOMER: VA Palo Alto Health Care System

LOCATION: Menlo Park, California, USA

BACKGROUND: The Menlo Park Division is one of three facilities a part of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System located in California.

The Menlo Park Division found numerous pumps with burned out seals within their condensate return system due to overheated condensate in the line. The problem was attributed to numerous blow through failed steam traps that the facility could not locate. They also realized there was a significant energy loss caused by these failed traps.

SCOPE OF WORK: Armstrong International performed a steam trap survey to identify failed traps and determine energy savings available through the SteamEye® system.

Armstrong provided a turnkey retrofit installation of SteamEye® trap monitoring to identify when and where a trap had failed. With SteamEye®, the steam traps information tied into their existing local area network through an IT approved device. The energy manager and the facility manager could track the condition of the steam traps with the use of this system.

A comprehensive steam trap survey was conducted to locate all traps, identify failed traps, and specify the correct monitoring devices. The survey results were applied through a turnkey retrofit project to install steam trap monitoring transmitters on the high and medium pressure traps, including hard to reach locations.

BENEFITS: SteamEye® solve the customer's problem with overheated condensate return. The condensate was coming back at 210°F (99°C) and was burning out the condensate pump seals. With the use of SteamEye®, the facility was now able to locate failed steam traps efficiently and fix the problem quickly. The facility recognized a simple payback within five years.

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