Steam Trap Monitoring

| Customer: | Veterans Hospital |
| Location: | Southeastern USA |

**Scope of Work:** A campus of this hospital is located on a former Army cavalry post. It has experienced major internal steam line degradation from carbonic acid corrosion and a higher than normal incidence of “cold plugged” steam traps. Many of these traps are located in areas that can become flooded, so the monitoring system needed to be able to operate in hostile conditions. Another campus is located in a nearby city. A steam trap survey was conducted in 2005 identifying a substantial annual savings, but no action was taken due to lack of funding.

**Upgrade Projects:** When funding became available to implement a trap monitoring project in 2011, the contracting officer used a GSA competitive solicitation, and selected the Armstrong SteamEye® system to monitor the traps and Utility Systems Solutions to perform the turnkey retrofit installation. An updated steam trap survey was conducted to ensure accurate data for both facilities and specify the correct monitoring devices. SteamEye® was used to tie the two systems together.

**Payback:** The simple payback was under 6 years.

**Benefits:** The facility manager reported, “We needed a way to get a handle on “cold plugged” steam traps in our decade old facility. We selected SteamEye® to monitor our traps because it could operate in manholes so we don’t have to worry about ground water flooding damaging the transmitter when it rains.”