Identify Blow Through Traps Faster

A main line blow through can cost as much as $35,000/year\(^1\). Typical trap testing cycle occurs annually. This means a blow through occurs for 6 months on average. Wireless trap testing provides instant notification of a blow through so it can be resolved in days instead of months. With an average of 3 main line blow through occurrences per year wireless trap testing avoids $50,000 in steam cost.

\(^1\)Based on a steam cost of $20.47/Klb. Armstrong 813, 50Lb main with a 50PMO.

Minimize Confined Space Entries

Confined space entries are expensive and potentially dangerous. It takes at least two pipefitters to test a trap in a vault. Depending on the conditions of the vault it may have to be pumped and/or ventilated prior to entry. Air monitoring also needs to be performed prior to entry and the area must be barricaded. Based on WMU’s labor rate it costs approximately $120 is labor to test a trap in a vault, with approximately 20 traps with vaults this provides and annual labor avoidance of $2,400.

Improved Trap Database Presents Big Possibilities

Our improved steam trap database provides many new opportunities including a mobile app which allows technicians to report trap status via mobile tablets and improved reports for strategic decision making. However the biggest improvement is the improved integration to our wireless trap testing program. When a trap fails in the field the new app automatically reports the status so issues can be corrected quicker.

Wireless Communication

A mesh network composed of transmitters, repeaters, and a central gateway relay information a trap status back to the trap database which is integrated into our building automation system.

BAS Integration

Integration into the building automation system provides a visual representation of performance issues and provides alarms to the maintenance service center.