

The Practical Application of Tracer Gas Leak Detection for Air Cooled Condensers

ACC Users Group October 4-6, 2016

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Tracer Gas Leak Detection

Focusing On:

Equipment / Sample Set-up

Air in-leakage indicators

ACC specific challenges



Inspections / Methodology

- Routine / Annual / Commissioning
- Before and/or after outage
- High backpressure, dissolved O2, Continuous use of hogger
- Advantages of using helium as a tracer gas over other methods



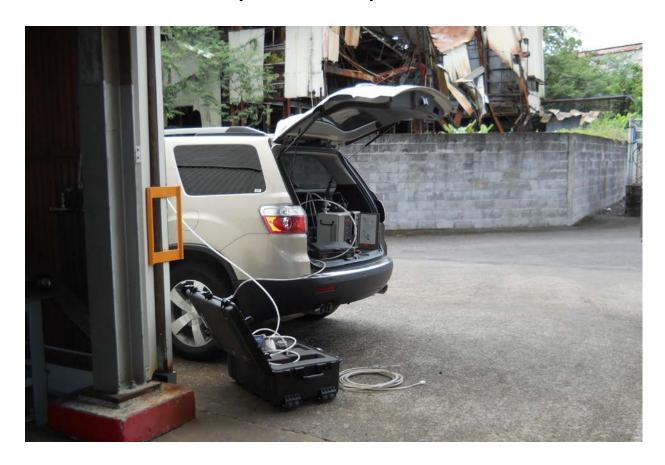
Helium Mass Spec





Analyzer

Analyzer Set-Up in Vehicle





Off-Gas Measurement





Rotometer



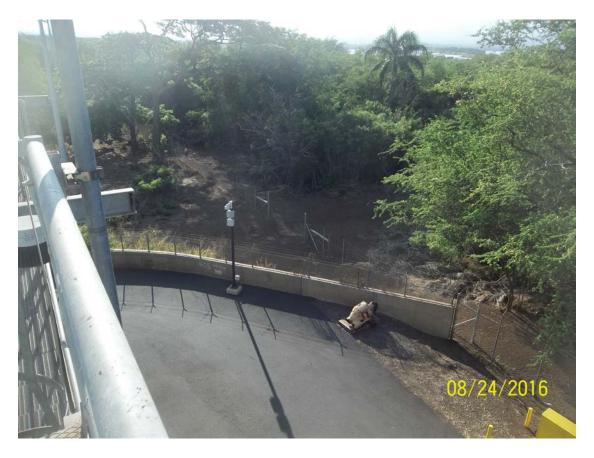


ACC / Maalaea





Pipeline





Pipeline







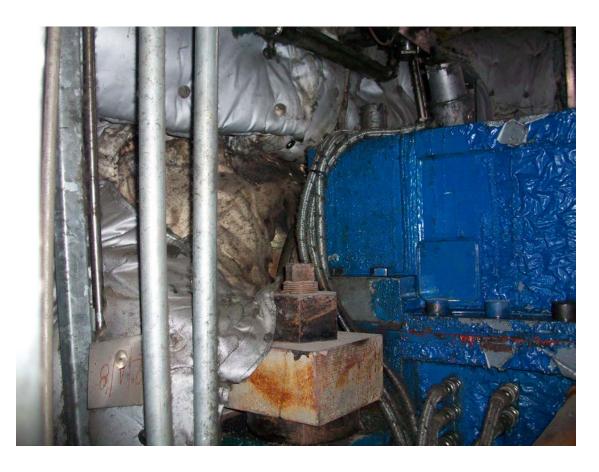


Debris





High Pressure Seal





Gland Seal Drain / Trap





Crossover Bellows Leak











Leakage Back Through Hogger Exhaust when Isolated





Leak Under Insulation





Insulation Removed





WOW!



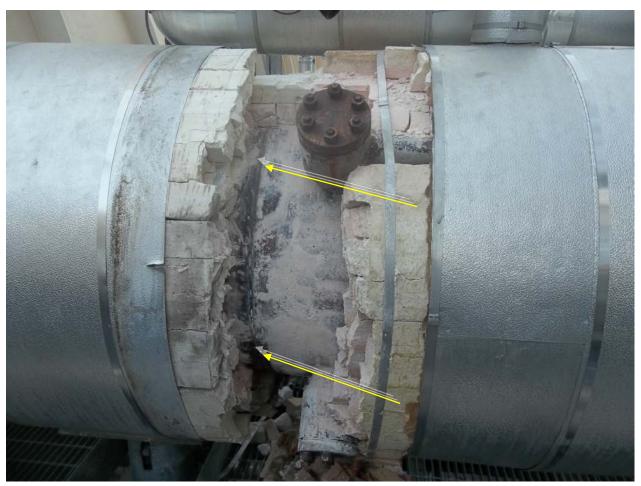


Bypass Leak





Circumferential Crack





Circumferential Crack









Base Weld Leaks





Top of Tube Leaks





First Tube Weld Leaks on Either Side of Bundle Welds - Left





First Tube Weld Leaks on Either Side of Bundle Welds - Right





Extensions



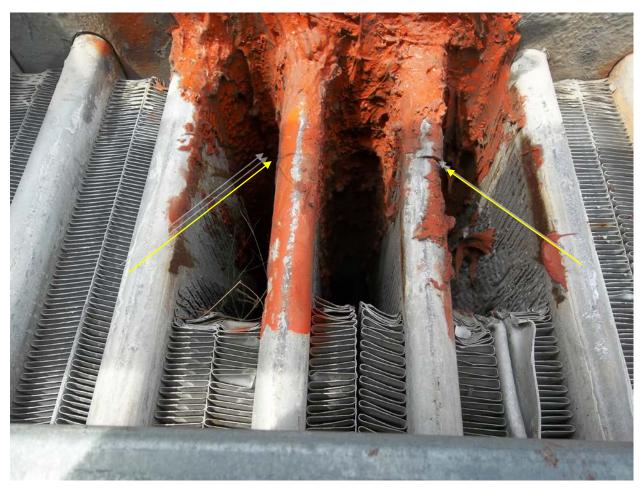


Extensions





Stress Cracking After Temporary Repairs





Cut Outs





6" Weld Crack





Lots of Possibilities





Leak Location





Pinhole Leak





Fan Room Shooting





Tube Leak and Weld Leak





Duct Weld Leak





Rupture Disc Leak





Leak on Bundle where It Was Welded to Exhaust Duct





Leak Directly on Exhaust Duct Weld





Exhaust Bellows Leak









2 Dephleg Indications





Crack on Elbow



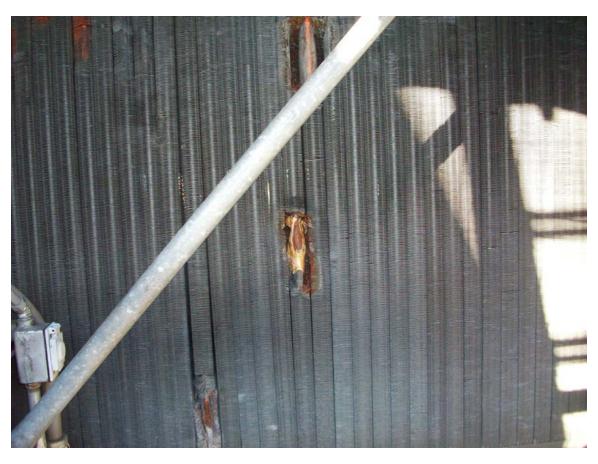


Crack on Elbow





Burst Tubes Due to Freezing





Creative Leak Repairs





Expanding Foam





Questions?

