

Beer manufacturer loses product with every steam trap failure

Challenge

A large beer manufacturer uses steam extensively for their heat kettles, brew house, flash pasteurizer, keg room, glycol heater, sucrose system, heat exchanger and varioclean crp. Trap failures mean more than just lost energy, they could very quickly result in lost product. Detection was so integral to their processes that they were inspecting their traps on a weekly basis. This took a staff member up to 5 hours each week. They calculated that a large failure would ruin product if it failed for longer than 24 hours. Each year they had approx 3 of those undetected failures with a loss of approx \$100K product each time.

Solution

Pulse Steam Trap Monitors were placed on 163 steam traps, 8 gateways installed and data is now recorded constantly and sent to the AI diagnostics software. Failure alerts were set up to be sent to maintenance and brewery teams.

In the first month a failure was detected and repaired with no down time necessary and no lost product. Additional failures in the future are not a worry as the system is in place and supported 24x7. They plan on rolling out the solution to their other locations over the next 12 months.

Benefits

- Failures are detected right away so no product ever needs to be ruined
- The worker who used to do inspections every week is now happily overseeing a new project
- They are enjoying significant energy savings in addition to the production values
- Maintenance workers don't have to be on site at all times or glued to a screen with analytics as they are emailed with failure alerts when a failure occurs
- User training on Pulse AI diagnostics system is very quick and easy



\$2,000 per month in wages plus \$1000 in month in energy savings is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of money saved



"It literally broke my heart to have to throw out all that beer several times a year"