Phases

Four

BY THE NUMBERS

of PROGRESSIVE PIGGING

INCREASE and REDUCTION in just the right areas. Follow this example of an Eagle Ford shale play operator as it implements pigging automation to increase its system efficiency while lowering cost.

THROUGHPUT increased due to greatly enhanced flow efficiency, as a result of multiple pig/tool loading options, automated release, and consistent liquids removal.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL savings realized as driving frequency and operational injury risks are reduced; methane emissions lowered.

PERSONNEL reallocation realized as fewer field technicians are required to launch and receive spheres, pigs, and inspection tools.

OPERATIONAL costs lowered by reduced fuel and power consumption, maintenance, and risk of plant shutdown; less valve cycling resulting in longer valve life.

REGULATION compliance cost proactively reduced, such as meeting the criteria for the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) voluntary Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program.

REDUCED methane emissions

After one year of implementing pigging automation, the operator reduced its methane emissions equivalent to the emissions output of 558 passenger vehicles over the same time period.

REDUCED operational risk

As the operator was able to preload multiple spheres, program and release them automatically, it required fewer site visits by its technicians, which meant less drive time and reduced operational risk.

DUAL LAUNCH PINS

AUTOMATED LAUNCH

So how is pigging actually automated?

» Load multiple spheres at one time
» Programmable logic controller
» Hydraulically operated release system

Automation also offers the added benefits of reduced closure door operation and valve cycling.

SPHERE

AUTOMATED LAUNCH

DUAL LAUNCH PINS

SPHERE

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