

Airport Fuel System Design Large Systems

2025 Aviation Fuel Handling Training Symposium Dan Frank, P.E., P.Eng VP of Engineering

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Things to Consider with Large Airport Fuel System Design

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- Layout of New Hydrant Systems
- Instrumentation and Data Collection
- ATA 103 Lay Flat Lids

Layout of New Hydrant Systems

- Looped Systems to allow Flushing
 - Jan. 2023 edition of ATA103 states hydrant systems "should" perform a maintenance flush
 - Every 5 yrs
 - After 2 flushes, with historical data, frequency may be adjusted
 - Piping Configuration
 - Redundant distribution mains (70%)
 - Line sizing important for fuel quality and pressure losses
 - Isolation and manifolding important to allow for looping
 - Inbound Filtration at Fuel Facility or dedicated tank
- Isolating gates to minimize disruptions in an EFSO event



Segmenting of Hydrant Systems

- Addressable EFSO
- Use motor operated valves
- EFSO shutdown minimize affected gates – backfeed capabilities
- Isolate every 7 or 8 gates generally

Issues with underground vaults

- Confined space entry
- Water intrusion
- Higher Maintenance
- Reduced lifespan of equipment
- Failures of fiberglass isolation valve pits



Isolation Valve Station

- Petitioned NFPA 415 to change the definition of a "probable fuel spill point" to exclude high point vents
- Allowed isolation valves to be placed near terminal buildings
- Eliminate below grade structures
- Reduce Maintenance



Fuel Storage Facilities

- Cable Tray in lieu of ductbanks
- Remote I/O Cabinets





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- Flourine Free Foam for Fire Protection



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Fuel Storage Facilities

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- VFDs
 - Install where they make sense
 - Increased cooling load



 Installing more sensors for data collection and predictive maintenance



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 - Differential Pressure Indicating Transmitters





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 - Pressure Indicating Transmitters





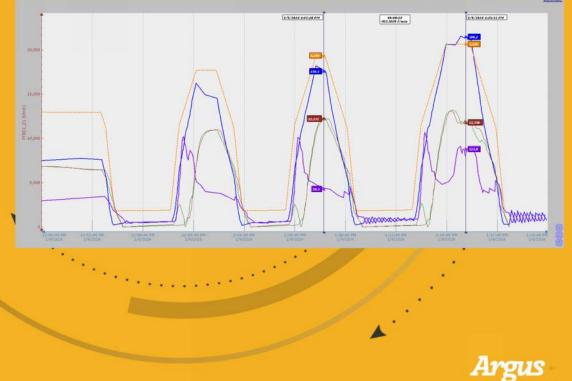
- Installing more sensors for data collection and predictive maintenance
 - Differential Pressure Indicating Transmitters
 - Flow Transmitters
 - Pressure Indicating Transmitters
 - Vibration and Bearing Temperature Sensors
 - Electrical Signal Analysis sensors in the MCC



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Data Uses

- Filter separator corrected DP based upon actual flow, predict when filter media needs changed out
- Commissioning:
- Operations





Asset Integrity

Data Uses

- Feed data to our sister company – SAIM
 - Integrate into Digital Twin
 - Dashboards
 - Maintenance Module
 - Predictive maintenance through data analysis
 - Informed Decision Making
 - Capital Programs
 - Engineering Decisions



Lay Flat Hydrant Pits

- ATA 103 requires all hydrant pits to be modified to lay flat lids by Dec. 31, 2027
 - Little movement on actual replacement
 - Used on all new installations





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 - All new installs using lay flat lids
- Options in the market
 - Dabico



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 - Kinley ownership developed their own pit being installed at HOU and IAH





Thank You

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