

ArcelorMittal Increases Reliability of Critical Furnace Cooling Circuit Leak Detection with High Performance Magnetic Flowmeters

RESULTS

- Improved safety by identifying leaks before potentially hazardous conditions occur
- Increased furnace availability by reducing nuisance shutdowns
- Reduced maintenance costs and improved leak detection performance

APPLICATION

Blast Furnace Tuyere Cooling Water Leak Detection

CUSTOMER

ArcelorMittal plant located in Florange in France. ArcelorMittal is the world's leading integrated steel and mining company, with a presence in more than 60 countries

CHALLENGE

Water is used to cool the tuyeres that inject air into the blast furnace. The flow of cooling water at the inlet and outlet of the cooling circuits is monitored to determine if there is a leak in the cooling circuit, which would show up as a difference between the two flows. The flow measurement must be as accurate as possible to quickly identify a leak, and reliable to prevent unnecessary alarms and shutdowns.

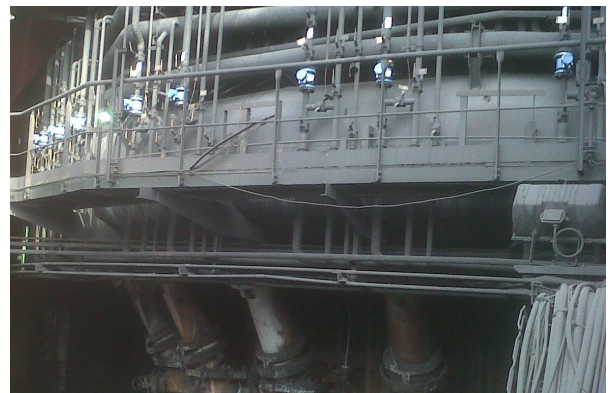
A leak in the cooling water circuit changes the dynamics of the cooling system, impacting the reaction in the furnace, and decreasing the performance and efficiency of the furnace. Moreover, if the leak is not detected in a timely manner and water is injected into the furnace, hydrogen is produced resulting in dangerous safety conditions and causing erosion in the furnace walls and roof that can be expensive and time consuming to repair.

ArcelorMittal was looking for a more accurate, reliable method to measure cooling water flow into and out of the furnace. The allowed difference between the input and output flow is 150 L/hr at a flow rate of 40 m³/hr, or approximately 0.375% of the cooling water flow. The measurement must be repeatable and reliable to prevent false alarms and nuisance furnace shut downs, and the measurement devices should be self checking to insure they are working correctly.



Besides the improved safety, the Emerson solution facilitated the start-up thanks to the seamless integration of the 8700 Magmeter with Profibus PA protocol in our existing system.

*David Kraemer
Project manager*



Installed Rosemount 8700 Magnetic Flowmeters to measure the cooling water flow at ArcelorMittal furnace.

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SOLUTION

ArcelorMittal solved this flow measurement challenge by installing Rosemount 8700 Magnetic Flowmeters on 22 tuyeres to measure the cooling water inlet and outlet flows. The high accuracy configuration implemented delivered 0.15% accuracy, or over 2x the minimum accuracy required, and the superior reliability and advanced diagnostics of the 8700 Magmeter insured ongoing performance in this critical application.

After installation of the Rosemount Magnetic Flowmeters, ArcelorMittal experienced faster and more reliable leak detection, enabling them to avoid critical safety issues and un-necessary shut downs. As a result, ArcelorMittal reports improved overall furnace performance.

RESOURCES

Emerson Metal and Mining Industry

<http://www2.emersonprocess.com/en-US/industries/metals-mining/Pages/index.aspx>

Rosemount E-Series

<http://www.emersonprocess.com/rosemount/products/flow/m8732e.html>



Installed Rosemount 8700 Magnetic Flowmeters at ArcelorMittal.

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Emerson Process Management

Rosemount Incorporated

8200 Market Boulevard
Chanhassen, MN 55317 USA
www.rosemount.com
Tel (USA) +1 800 522 6277
Tel (International) +1 (303) 527 5200
Fax +1 (303) 530 8459

Emerson Process Management Flow

Neonstraat 1
6718 WX Ede
The Netherlands
Tel +31 (0) 318 495 555
Fax +31 (0) 318 495 556

Emerson FZE

P.O. Box 17033
Jebel Ali Free Zone
Dubai UAE
Tel +971 4 811 8100
Fax +971 4 886 5465

Emerson Process Management

Emerson Process Management Asia Pacific
Private Limited
1 Pandan Crescent
Singapore 128461
T (65) 6777 8211
F (65) 6777 0947
Enquiries@AP.EmersonProcess.com

Emerson Process Management Latin America

Multipark Office Center

Multipark Office Center
Turrubares Building, 3rd & 4th floor
Guachipelin de Escazu, Costa Rica
T+(506) 2505-6962
international.mmicam@emersonprocess.com

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For more information:
www.rosemount.com

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