Emerson focuses on custody transfer C6+ application in the natural gas

Emerson Process Management unveiled the 370XA Gas Chromatograph (GC) which culminates several years of R&D efforts. 370XA Gas Chromatograph, an innovative product used for analysis of natural gas, is a practical solution that makes installation, operation and maintenance easier at the industrial site. MONTHLY KORSHIP had an interview with Sundeep Saraf, Vice President for Rosemount Analytical, Emerson Process Management.

Q: What is the background that led Emerson to launch 370XA Gas Chromatograph (GC)?
Sundeep Saraf: The 370XA is the latest development in the XA series of Emerson’s GC, which include the 700XA and the 1500XA. The XA series share a common software and firmware platform and each model is designed to provide solutions to address the varying end-user needs. The 370XA natural GC is used for the common C6+ analysis where the end-user requires the industry standard C6+ natural gas analysis only. It is designed to significantly simplify the operation and maintenance of the GC in locations where operators with the skills and experience typically required to use a traditional GC are not available.

Q: You mentioned that 370XA GC can resolve major issues facing the natural gas sector. Please explain what those issues are?
Sundeep Saraf: A major focus in the design of the 370XA was to make the unit significantly easier for an untrained technician to use and maintain by incorporating a lot of the knowledge from years of operating GC into the software. The 370XA has a local user interface (full color LCD and 13 keys) that uses software assistants to guide the user through common functions such as changing the calibration gas. This interface is significantly better than any other GC commonly sold for the C6+ application, and in many cases, removes the need for technicians to use a laptop computer to operate, maintain, and diagnose the unit.

Another innovation is the maintainable module™ that enables an untrained operator to remove and replace the complex analytical hardware as a single module.

Q: What is differentiated competitiveness of 370XA GC?
Sundeep Saraf: Unlike traditional GC that necessitated hard core GC expertise, the 370XA GC is easy to install, operate and maintain. The 370XA is designed to simplify natural gas measurement analysis in fiscal and custody transfer applications and improve traditional (C6+) gas measurement analysis. It provides quick 4 minutes BTU analysis for C6+ natural gas stream analysis. It also provides accurate measurement according to GPA 2198 for quantitative...
and qualitative measurement. The 370XA GC performs measurement with a unique maintainable module™ and a user interface designed with intuitive operators in mind. The maintainable design gives the low downtime benefits of module replacement in the field with the cost effective benefits of component-level repair. The module can be easily replaced in the field within few hours using the module replacement wizard on the full-color local operator interface.

The 370XA also can be integrated with a system solution with wireless transmitter and solar power to minimize the cable and connection. This solution will resolve the issue of remote monitoring for long natural gas line transmission at remote location.

Q: What is the most ideal application area and what are the benefits for customers from the application?

Sundeep Saraf: The 370XA is targeted specifically at the Natural Gas Custody Transfer market where the natural gas volumes, energy content, and quality are measured for billing between the buyer and seller of the gas. It is also applicable for industries that need to know the composition and quality of the natural gas such as natural gas transmission, power plant, city gate operators and industrial users.

The analysis performed is the “C6+” analysis. Quantitative measurement involves the analysis of individual up C6+ components inclusive of CO2 and Nitrogen. Qualitative measurement will provide the BTU and wobbe index, density value which will give output to user defined function. This measurement is the industry standard used for the calculation of the energy content of natural gas and the other physical properties (such as density and compressibility) for custody transfer (buying and selling of natural gas) or allocation across a network.

While the unit is competitively priced to other units targeting this application, the 370XA leads the market segment with the significant enhancements in ease-of-use and the lowered total cost of ownership.

Q: What are the sales strategies and goals of Emerson in natural gas measurement sector in the wake of the launch of 370XA GC?

Sundeep Saraf: Emerson has strategically positioned ourselves in the growing industry particularly energy sector such as Oil and gas, Coal chemical, Refinery, Petrochemical and Power & Utilities.

We continue to invest in innovation and new technology to help resolve customers’ toughest problem. Our products and solutions development is focusing on specific needs and applications of each of the industries we serve. Products and solutions will be custom-tailored and fitted to industry-specific applications, with ease of use and maintainability features that are important to customers.

370XA is a good example of industry application specific product that focuses on custody transfer C6+ application in the natural gas industry. From natural gas chromatograph perspective, we will be pursuing C6+ custody transfer with 370XA and complex applications including gas quality measurement with 700XA. We are excited to be able to help customers in the global standards adoption through our long history & expertise in the natural gas industry."