Energy company updates safety showers and gains enhanced alerting capabilities

RESULTS
• Updated safety shower design enables alerts for reduction in emergency response time.
• Provided a unique design of latching switch.
• Excellent service has created a repeat customer as plans form to retrofit every safety shower in the facility.

APPLICATION
Safety showers

CHALLENGE
In order to comply with OSHA regulations, the customer needed to update its safety showers. The customer’s outdated shower design was no longer supported by any manufacturer, and several showers lacked needed thermal insulation. What’s more, the existing showers had proven unreliable with pieces of plastic blocking the flow valves, causing downtime and maintenance costs. The showers also lacked any type of reliable alert or monitoring system.

SOLUTION
As part of the shower retrofit, the customer worked with the Emerson team to implement a system based on a latching 11 Series TopWorx™ Go™ Switch and Rosemount 702 transmitter. Together, the switch and transmitter can automatically alert emergency responders in the event that an incapacitated worker is unable to turn the shower off manually after a set amount of time. This latching design on an explosion-proof, lever-less limit switch is a unique safety feature to Emerson which sends out a signal regardless of water flow or if an incapacitated worker releases the valve, ensuring the signal is not missed by safety personnel.

Emerson initially installed the latching system in four showers as a test run, and the customer has plans to use the system throughout the facility—200 showers in all.