

Soapy Bubble Testing

FAST AND EFFECTIVE LEAK LOCATION

OVERVIEW

Safe operating conditions are essential to oil and gas processing systems. With ever increasing productivity demands and complexity of processing plants, the handling of high-pressure flammable or toxic fluids requires the utmost safety standards. Compliance with such standards ensures that remedial actions are taken swiftly and effectively.

During commissioning or startup activities the fastest and most effective method of determining a leaking jointed connection, prior to conducting a full system leak test, is by pressurizing the system with air or nitrogen and

‘snooping’ all joints with bubble solution. This surfactant based fluid readily creates bubbles similar to dish soap, and when applied to an area of pipe, will readily produce bubbles from any leaking gas no matter how small the leak.

Although not quantifiable, this method is ideal for very quickly identifying connections that require re-work or repair by providing a strong visual indication of a leak and forms a crucial time and cost effective solution during system construction and maintenance activities removing the need to fully test the system.

APPLICATIONS

- Gas distribution systems
- Petrochemical process piping
- Oil refinery process piping
- Purging during shut down and maintenance programs
- Leak testing of new process plants and system
- Leak testing following system shut down, maintenance or modification

FEATURES

- Non-toxic
- Works with any gas
- Can be used adhoc during production

BENEFITS

- Environmentally friendly
- Strong immediate visual confirmation
- No need to dry or clean the system after testing
- Will not lead to contamination of pipelines or systems

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