

Dewpoint Measurement Application #11

Hydrogen Cooling / Hydrogen Dryers

Hydrogen gas is used for cooling industrial turbine generators. **Application**

Problem

Hydrogen gas has a very high heat transfer capability, and it is very free flowing (low viscocity). Both of these features make it ideal for rapidly cooling turbine generators. However, excessive moisture will reduce both these properties, and increase the potential for corrosion of the generator parts. Turbine generators have older style single tower desiccant dryers or newer dual-tower models. The single tower versions are very susceptible to moisture infiltration. The newer dual tower design is better, but a valve or component failure can cause system problems.

Solution

Continuous monitoring of hydrogen dryers to warn of a wet-up in the system or a dryer failure. Normal measurements are moderate, in the range of -40°F to 0°F.

Equipment

Any in-line instrument will work for this application. Since hydrogen is a "Group B" rated gas, an intrinsically safe system with our approved Zener barrier will be required. The AMT-EX would be an ideal choice. An instrinsically safe portable instrument would be a good option if the application does not warrant continuous monitoring.

Advantages

All Delta sensors will pick up a wet-up condition or dryer failure very rapidly.

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