

DELTA-THERM

HEAT SOURCE

How NOT To MELT Your HEAT TRACE CABLE

Where a competitor's cable failed, Delta-Therm heat trace cable worked just great! Southwestern PA power plant successfully operates Delta-Therm Alloy 825 MI cable under continuous exposure temps up to 1100° F.

CLIENT: When electricity is in high demand, cities often turn to a backup power source. One such backup power plant in southwestern PA uses steam to provide this additional electricity. Since the plant isn't a regular source of power, it is often shut down for days or weeks at a time. To prevent the pipes in the plant from freezing during a shut down, they are traced with mineral insulated heat tracing cable.

CHALLENGE

Almost immediately the original mineral insulated cable installed at the power plant began to fail. After analysis of the cable failures, it was determined that the seam was cracking and breaking due to the high temperature of the steam which reaches up to 1,000° Fahrenheit. The plant decided that it had to replace all of the seamed MI cable with a reliable heat tracing cable that could withstand the high temperature of the steam.

SOLUTION

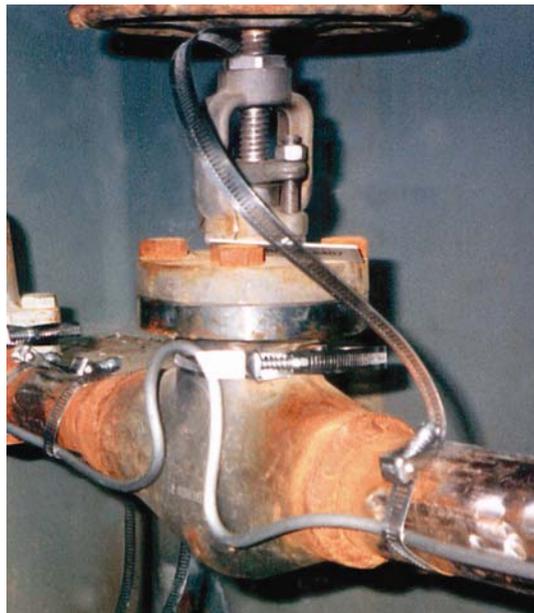
Delta-Therm's two-conductor stainless steel alloy 825 MI cable has an exposure temperature up to 1,100° Fahrenheit and the extrusion process for the Delta-Therm MI cable results in a seamless sheath.

Since the plant couldn't afford to shut down to replace the entire seamed MI cable system the maintenance engineers monitor the remaining seamed MI cable and contact Delta-Therm for replacement cables as failures occur. Since sections at a time commonly fail, Delta-

Therm usually sees a multiple job order. It could be five feet of cable or hundreds of feet of cable that needs to be replaced.

Delta-Therm mineral insulated heat tracing cables are factory terminated to specification and each cable is quality tested before shipping. A quote for the replacement cables is produced within 48 hours and manufacturing begins immediately after approval from the client.

"Each Delta-Therm representative is trained to assess what the client has and where they should go next with a project," said Damico. "We provide complete design and engineering."



RESULTS

The Delta-Therm seamless MI cable has been able to withstand the high temperatures and it provides heat to the plant when it is in stand-by mode.

"This replacement has been going on now for over three years," said Damico. "As the seamed cables fail, they've put ours on. They like the quality and they appreciate our responsiveness." ■