

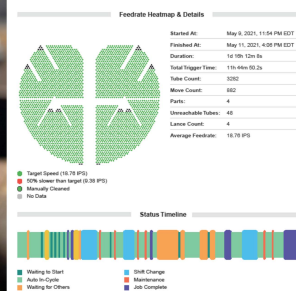
Adding Value with the Latest Technology

A Texas refinery was forced into shutdown due to a set of combined feed exchangers acting up. Having this unit down resulted in significant daily losses to the plant. HPC set up our CTCS (computerized tube cleaning system) on both 72-foot exchangers to clean from the bottom, running four lances on each. After two shifts we were not making much progress as we were up against heavy fouling. By having all the real time cleaning data, we were able to adjust and get the unit back on line.

Data is a Powerful Tool

Data is a powerful tool for this process. HPC used the real-time data to make adjustments and the customer is using the data to prevent similar issues in the future.

There are few other solutions for cleaning exchangers from the bottom, especially considering the amount of fouling that was present. CTCS, along with our engineering team, contributed to this project's success.



Real-Time Data Advantages

- The graph showed exactly where we were hitting both softer and harder buildup
- The computer could vary the speed of the lances throughout the 72-foot exchanger based on the amount of fouling identified in each section
- HPC engineering was on two calls a day with the site to tweak the process based on collected data
- “Plan B” was designed, built and delivered to the site within 24 hours to clean the top 12 feet
- Plan of action created for future cleanings

