



# KUWAIT 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOW MEASUREMENT TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

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HILTON KUWAIT RESORT , AL DORRA BALLROOM

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إحدى شركات مؤسسة البترول الكويتية  
A Subsidiary of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation

# Importance Of Process Analytics In Custody Transfer & Flare Gas Applications



**MANOJ KUMAR**  
**Sr. Analyzer Engineer, EQUATE**

# About Speaker

- Over 25 years of professional experience in refining and petrochemical industries with roles in engineering design, maintenance, construction and commissioning.
- B.Tech Instrumentation and Control Engg.( India )
- Employed at EQUATE since 1996.
- Certified Six sigma Green Belt Project Leader.

# Agenda

- About EQUATE Petrochemical Co.
- Quality Analysis In Custody Metering
- Custody Transfer Analysis - Case Study
- Common Issues – Custody Transfer Analysis
- Flare Analysis - Major Drivers & Challenges
- Flare Analysis – Case Study
- Automatic Validation Systems & Smart Sample Systems.



## About **EQUATE** Group

The EQUATE Group\* is a global producer of petrochemicals and the world's second largest producer of Ethylene Glycol (EG).

The Group has industrial complexes in Kuwait, North America and Europe that annually produce over 5 million tons of Ethylene, EG, Polyethylene (PE) and Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET). The products are marketed throughout Asia, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

The EQUATE Group's shareholders include Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC), The Dow Chemical Company (Dow), Boubyan Petrochemical Company (BPC) and Qurain Petrochemical Industries Company (QPIC).

The Group is a leading enterprise that pursues sustainability wherever it operates through partnerships in fields that include the environment, economy and society.

\* The EQUATE Group includes EQUATE Petrochemical Company (EQUATE), its subsidiaries and The Kuwait Olefins Company (TKOC).



# EQUATE Group at a glance

## PROFIT

US\$ 679  
Million  
(2016)



## PRODUCTS

PE / EG / SM  
PX / BZ / HA / PP



## EMPLOYEES

+1500  
Employees

## OPERATIONS

Kuwait,  
North  
America &  
Europe



## AWARDS

National &  
International  
Awards



Providing **valued products** to the world



# EQUATE Analytical Asset Base

Descriptions	Total
Analyzer shelters	35
Analyzer cabinets	12
Continuous Gas Analyzers	764
Gas Chromatographs	142
Gas Detectors	1400



# Process Analytics

Efficiently monitor and control process parameters to achieve:

- Safety
- Regulatory compliance
- Quality

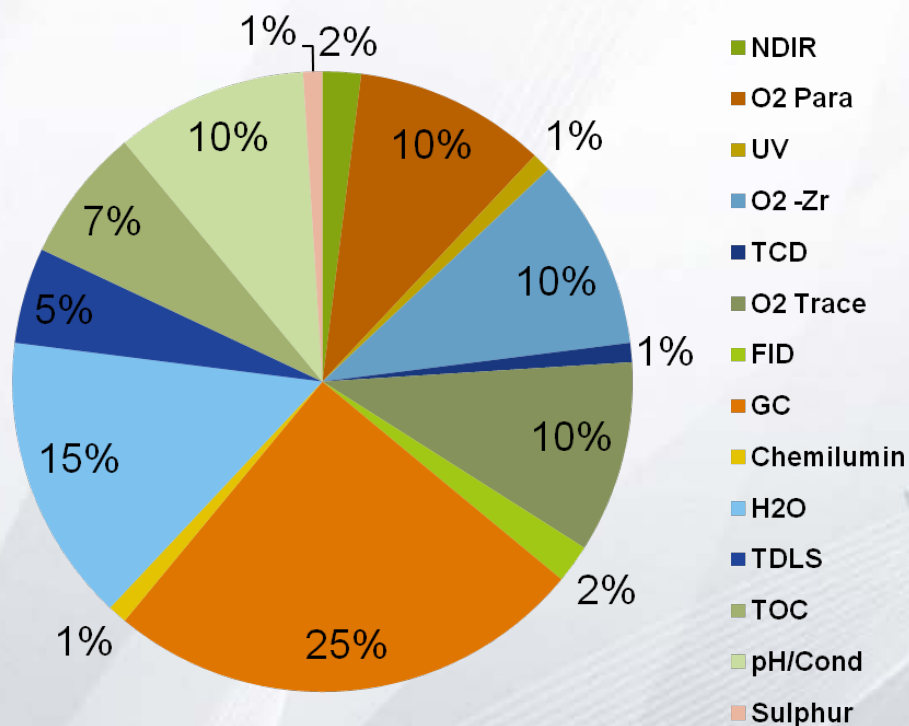
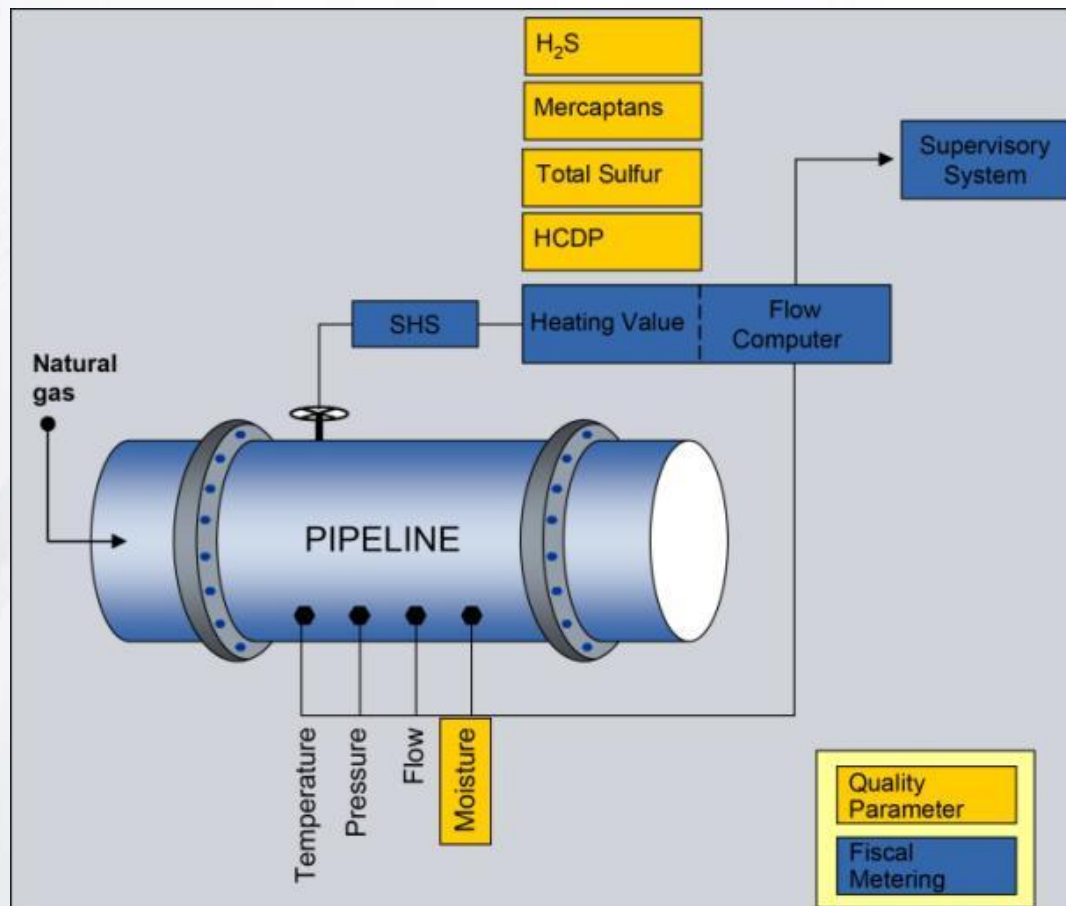


Fig: Typical Process Analyzer Distribution

# Types Of Quality Measurement

- Gas chromatographic-CO<sub>2</sub> /H<sub>2</sub>S/HC
- Tuned diode laser –TDL- O<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O/H<sub>2</sub>S
- BTU analysis/Wobbe Index-CARI
- Sulfur-TRS
- Density
- Viscosity
- Moisture
- B S &W analyzer /water cut and more

# Quality & Fiscal Measurements



## ▪ Heating Value

- GC preferred for high volume flow
- Gas quality analyzer optional for medium volume flow

## ▪ H<sub>2</sub>S

- UV, TDLS, **GC**, Lead Acetate

## ▪ Mercaptans / Total Sulfur

- UV, **GC**, Lead Acetate

## ▪ Hydrocarbon Dewpoint

- Chilled Mirror, Quartz, **GC**

## ▪ Moisture

- Chilled Mirror, Quartz, TDLS

# Benefits Of Reliable Analysis

- Cost/Profitability
- Reliability of Up/Down stream equipment's
- Safety & Environment Regulatory compliance
- Quality

## Value addition of Extended Analysis

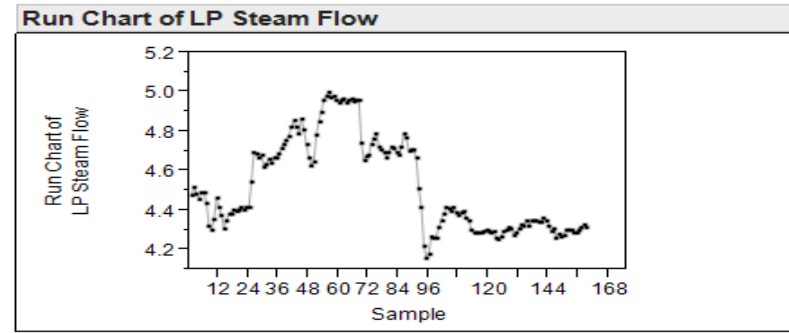
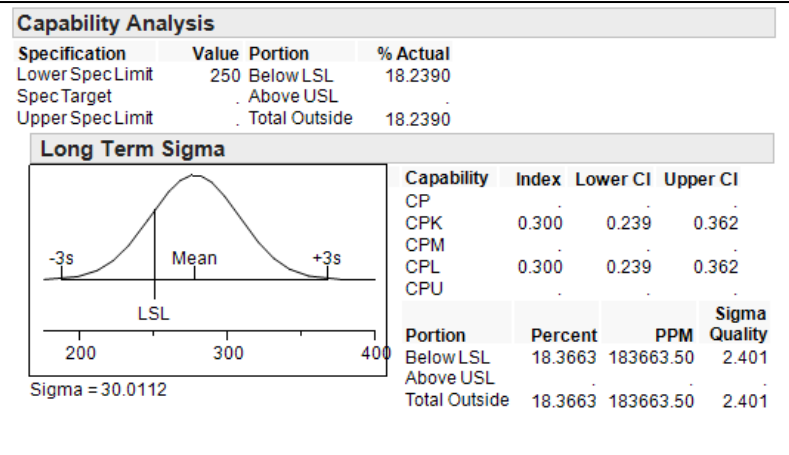
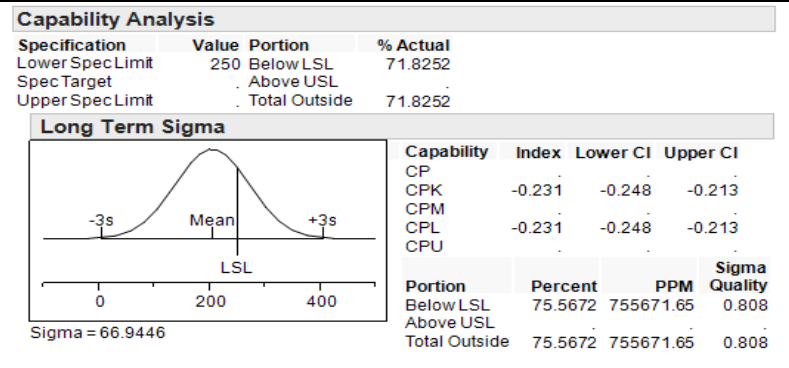
C <sub>6</sub> + Measurement	C <sub>9</sub> + Measurement
Heating value: 9,6919 kWh	Heating value: 9,6952 kWh
Price: 12 cent per kWh	Price: 12 cent per kWh
Volume: 10 million Nm <sup>3</sup> per day*1	Volume: 10 million Nm <sup>3</sup> per day*1
<b>Σ = 11630000 €</b>	<b>Σ = 11634000 €</b>
<b>Extended measurement saves 4000 € per day !!!!</b>	



# Case Study – Liquid Phase Custody Transfer

## Reduction in over processing of final product

- **Project focused to optimize Product Specification Targets:**
  - Product water content spec is 400 ppm max.
  - Control limits Optimization 250 – 360ppm.
- **Profitability:**
  - Reduction of steam used to evaporate water to optimize product purity.
- **Improvements done for better analyzer reliability :**
  - Improved response time
  - Sample system improvement to avoid two phase sample
  - Calibration and validation methods.



# Case Study – Gas Phase Custody Transfer

- ❖ **Project Opportunity:** Increase H2 production by optimizing H2 purity
- ❖ **Defect:**  $97.5\% \leq \text{H2 Purity} \leq 97.9\%$
- ❖ **Process:** Ratio of bypass flow to total flow is calculated and controlled by ratio controller. Total flow is the sum of bypass flow and PSA feed flow. Product purity measured by GC.

## Risks Assessment

- ❖ Low H2 purity to customer < 97.0%
- ❖ Low FG production impacting FG Allocation

## Benefits Assessment

- ❖ More H2 production.
- ❖ Longer life of PSA adsorbent

## Root Cause :

- ❖ Ratio SP not updated based on demand
- ❖ Unreliable analyzer performance
- ❖ Too much operator intervention to avoid flaring
- ❖ Variation in H2 purity from PSA
- ❖ Variation in customer header pressure
- ❖ Ratio/Flow cascade sluggish performance
- ❖ Plant load variation

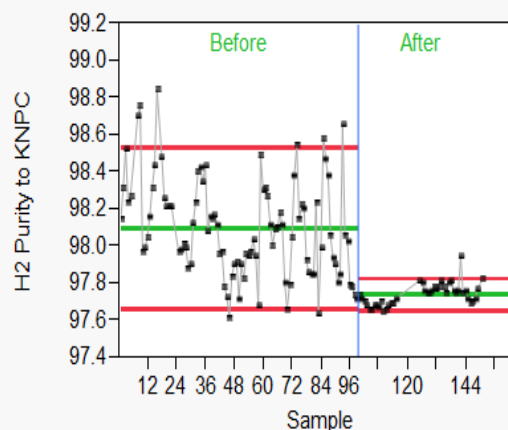
## Improvements done for better analyzer reliability :

- ❖ Sample system improvements to reduce uncertainty
- ❖ Robust analysis with Application change
- ❖ Additional analysis for early indicator of off spec product

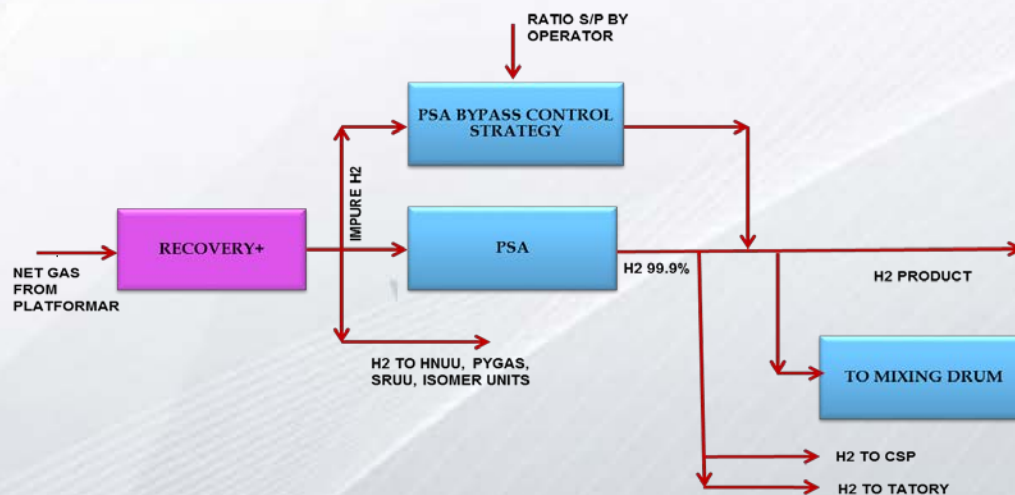
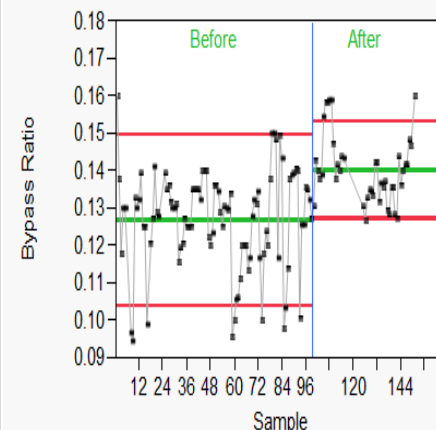
## Project Savings:

Hard Dollar : ~ xx MM\$

Individual Measurement of H2 Purity to KNPC



Individual Measurement of Bypass Ratio





# Concerns In Custody Transfer/Metering Analyzers

- ☐ Installation Issues
- ☐ Improper Sample system design
- ☐ Calibration standard Inconsistency
- ☐ Operating Discipline

# Flare Analysis

## ❑ Major Drivers:

- EPA regulatory compliance requirement-40 CFR Part 60 subpart Ja- Emission reduction
- Safety –Detonation
- Cost –Quantification & combustion efficiency.

## ❑ Parameters to be measured

- HC-H2 content /O2 content/ BTU content/H2S-TRS/CO2

## ❑ Technologies for measurement

- GC/ TDLS/ Calorie meter /Sulfur analyzer- UV/Furnace

# EPA Monitoring Guidelines

## Gaseous Fuels and Natural Gas

Gaseous Fuel	Data Source	Analytical Method	
		Methode	Regulations
net calorific value	Own calculation on basis of the gas composition (typically by lab on online system)	Determination of individual components by gas chromatography and calculation from calorific values of gas composition.	Gaschromatography: EN 15984-2011 ISO6974 DIN 51872 Calorific Value EN15984 ISO 6974 DIN 51857 Performance Evaluation: ISO10723
Carbon Content	see calorific value	Determination of individual components by gas chromatography and calculation from carbon content of gas composition.	see calorific value EN15984
Biomass Content (biogene carbon content)	see calorific value	C14-Methode	see DIN CEN/TS 15474 (draft)
Emission Factor	Own calculation on basis of the analysis of calorific value and carbon content (ev. including biomass content)	Calculation of weighted annual mean value for specific load (charge)	$EF = \frac{C_{gross} * 3,664}{Hu}$

- ISO 6974, DIN 51872 = Description of the measuring method gas chromatography (GC)
- ISO 6976, DIN 51857 = Calculation of calorific value and other physical properties
- DIN ISO10723 = Performance evaluation of gas chromatographs
- EN15984 = Measuring method GC and calculation parameters including carbon content for refinery heating gas

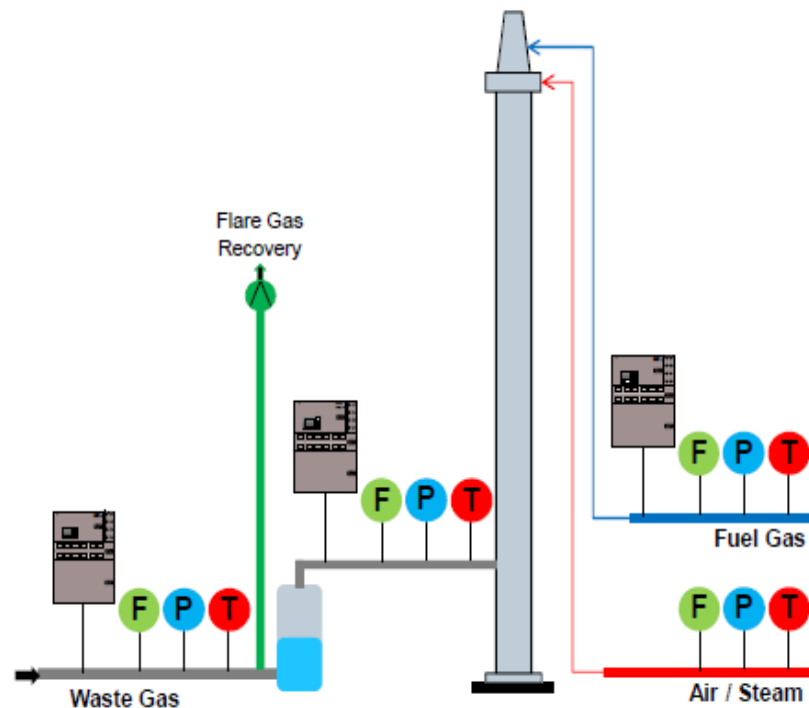
Gaschromatography is the recommended technology described in specific standards and norms

## Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Air Act

- Effective January 30th 2019, 40 CFR part 63.670 and 63.671 mandates to reduce toxic air emissions
- Install Control devices to ensure a minimum BTU value of 270 BTU/Scf.
- Prevent high penalties/NOV and Company image towards CSR
- 40CFR60 subpart Ja – Hydrogen Sulfide- Limit the short-term concentration of H2S to 162ppmv in the fuel gas sent to flares during normal operating conditions.

# Combustion Efficiency & Emission

<b>Air/Steam</b>	Combustion Efficiency Flare gas velocity	T, P, F
<b>Fuel Gas</b>	Pilot Light ensure minimum BTU Heat Value, Emission	T, P, F Analytics
<b>Waste Gas</b>	Waste Gas emission Heat Value, Emission	T, P, F Analytics
<b>Recovery</b>	Return to process Heat Value, Emission	T, P, F Analytics



# Safety

Infiltration of air into flare stack may lead to a flame flash back resulting in detonation.

## Cross interference Effect conventional O<sub>2</sub> Analysis

Residual gas (concentration 100 % v/v)		Zero deviation in % v/v O <sub>2</sub> absolute	Residual gas (concentration 100 % v/v)		Zero deviation in % v/v O <sub>2</sub> absolute
<b>Organic gases</b>			<b>Noble gases</b>		
Acetic acid	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	-0.64	Argon	Ar	-0.25
Acetylene	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	-0.29	Helium	He	+0.33
1,2 Butadiene	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	-0.65	Krypton	Kr	-0.55
1,3 Butadiene	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	-0.49	Neon	Ne	+0.17
iso-Butane	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	-1.30	Xenon	Xe	-1.05
n-Butane	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	-1.26			
1-Butene	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	-0.96	<b>Inorganic gases</b>		
iso-Butene	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	-1.06	Ammonia	NH <sub>3</sub>	-0.20
cyclo-Hexane	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub>	-1.84	Carbon dioxide	CO <sub>2</sub>	-0.30
Ethene	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	-0.49	Carbon monoxide	CO	+0.07
Ethylene	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	-0.22	Chlorine	Cl <sub>2</sub>	-0.94
Dichlorodifluoromethane (R12)	CCl <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub>	-1.32	Dinitrogen monoxide	N <sub>2</sub> O	-0.23
n-Heptane	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub>	-2.4	Hydrogen	H <sub>2</sub>	+0.26
n-Hexane	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub>	-2.02	Hydrogen bromide	HBr	-0.76
Methane	CH <sub>4</sub>	-0.18	Hydrogen chloride	HCl	-0.35
Methanol	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	-0.31	Hydrogen fluoride	HF	+0.10
n-Octane	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub>	-2.78	Hydrogen iodide	HI	-1.19
n-Pentane	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>12</sub>	-1.68	Hydrogen sulphide	H <sub>2</sub> S	-0.44
iso-Pentane	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>12</sub>	-1.49	Oxygen	O <sub>2</sub>	+100
Propane	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	-0.87	Nitrogen	N <sub>2</sub>	0.00
Propylene	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	-0.64	Nitrogen dioxide	NO <sub>2</sub>	+20.00
Trichlorofluoromethane (R11)	CCl <sub>3</sub> F	-1.63	Nitrogen oxide	NO	+42.94
Vinyl chloride	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> Cl	-0.77	Sulphur dioxide	SO <sub>2</sub>	-0.20
Vinyl fluoride	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> F	-0.55	Sulphur hexafluoride	SF <sub>6</sub>	-1.05
1,1 Vinylidene chloride	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	-1.22	Water	H <sub>2</sub> O	-0.03

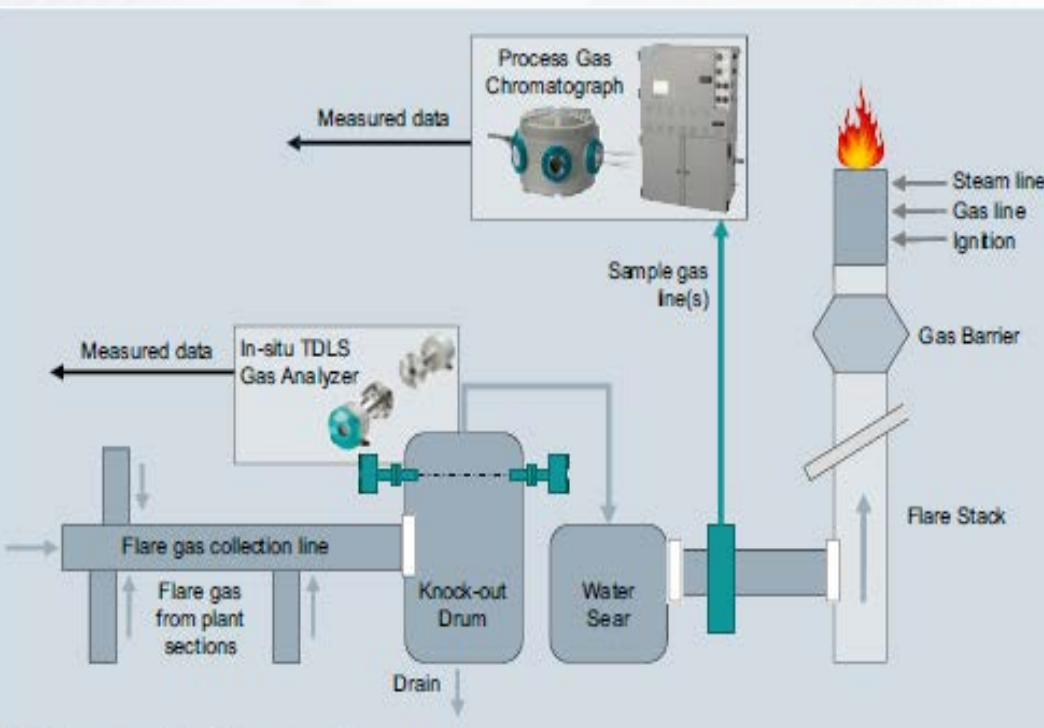


Fig. 3: Flare gas monitoring (Siemens concept)



# Challenges

- **Selection of technology**
- **Sample system design issues**
- **Automatic Validation**
- **Wide variability of concentrations quick variations**

# Case Study

## Suspected O2 infiltration into Flare header

➤ There is no oxygen leak in the flare header, the **problem is the type of oxygen analyzer that is installed** in the flare header, it is effected by the presents of hydrogen.

Today we started removing the vent gas from the flare header and started to burn it in the styrene furnaces. The flare oxygen content went from .16% to 0.0% with in minutes of removing 90 % on the vent stream. We also know the vent stream has no oxygen in it, as there are 3 oxygen analyzers on this stream.

➤ Path forward is to replace this oxygen analyzer with one that is not effected by the presence of hydrogen.

➤ We are now in the process of **reducing the huge amount of nitrogen** we have had flowing into the flare header and we will reduce this down to the amount required by zeeco for the seal

- This is an excellent achievement in solving the problem. We all know how many **man-hours have been spent on identifying and taking corrective actions to avoid process hazards.**
- This brings to the another point that **who looks into the analyzer specifications before selection and installation**



Technology Expert



Process Safety Expert

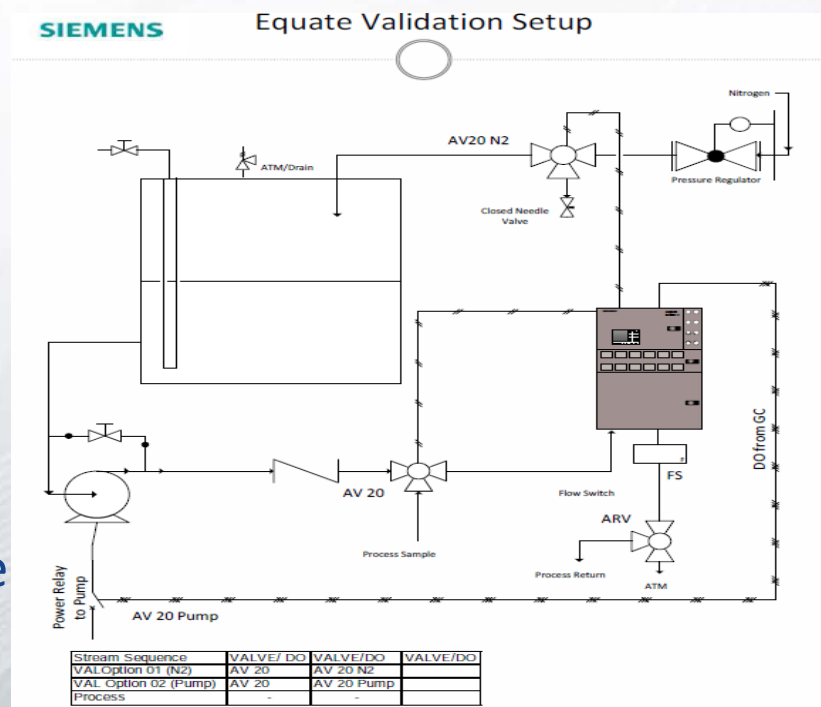


# Automatic Validation Systems

- Monitor , control and report analyzer performance
- Over calibration contribute to unstable process equilibrium
- Performance audit Increase confidence level for operations
- Indicates SQC , Availability , Maintainability

## ❑ Case study for Glycol analyzers

- Improve the MTBF of SIV seals
- Improved MOC of seal
- Introduce remote start/stop
- Introduce auto validation Scheme
- SMART sample system concept





Thanks for Attention