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Case Study: Steam System Risk Mitigation Using RBI

Bio Slide

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Field of Expertise: Inspection; RBI;
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Industry Involvement: Chairman for API 581
Task Group(Vice-Chair 2012-2018)

What's the Problem?

Fifty-one (51) year old unit

Maintenance activity increasing over time
and unpredictable

Limited inspection history

**Needed a prioritized mitigation plan to
request capital funding for increased
reliability**



Steam System Risk Mitigation using RBI

RBI was used to prioritize mitigation of steam related piping in an aged unit.

- Client's existing semi-quantitative RBI software was used
- Piping was systemized and circuitized
- Production consequence override was used
- Maintenance and Inspection plans were developed for mitigation



Scope

440 total piping circuits

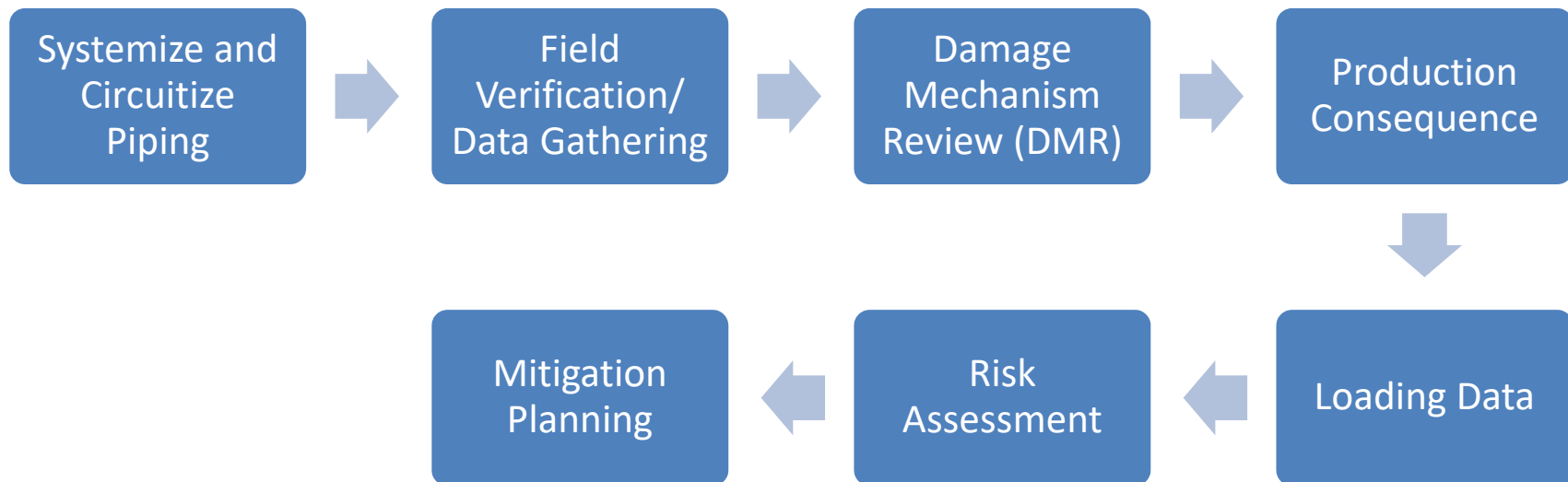
5 steam systems

2 condensate systems

1 Boiler Feed Water (BFW) system



Project Planning



DMR Findings

- Boiler water/condensate corrosion
- Erosion/corrosion
- Inferior trim and packing on older valves
- Outdated torqueing procedure
- Majority of internal damage found in small-bore, saturated steam service



Default Semi-Quantitative Methodology

- Probability
 - Current state vs. original for base damage factor (DF)
 - Inspections can reduce DF
 - Credits for overdesign: current vs. design
 - Internal, external and cracking DMs
 - Qualitative modeling
- Consequence
 - Designed for PSM processes
 - Calculates for flammability, reactivity and toxicity
 - Allows upgrade based on production loss



Production Consequence Methodology

An A-E ranking system was developed.

- A. Unit shutdown
- B. Multiple section shutdown
- C. Reduced rates for unit
- D. Reduced rates for section
- E. No effect on production

Values were assigned by site SMEs



Risk Results

Combined Risk Distribution

Totals								
47.0%	207	1	0	179	22	0	6	
4.8%	21	2	8	6	4	0	3	
11.1%	49	3	5	22	15	0	7	
5.2%	23	4	2	0	12	0	9	
31.8%	140	5	10	12	21	0	97	
			E	D	C	B	A	Totals
	440		25	219	74	0	122	
			6%	50%	17%	0%	28%	

Internal Risk Distribution

Totals								
196	1	0	170	20	0	6		
16	2	4	7	4	0	1		
58	3	5	29	17	0	7		
24	4	2	1	11	0	10		
146	5	14	12	22	0	98		
		E	D	C	B	A	Totals	
440		25	219	74	0	122		

External Risk Distribution

Totals								
67	1	0	59	7	0	1		
53	2	4	42	4	0	3		
1	3	0	0	1	0	0		
5	4	0	0	1	0	4		
314	5	21	118	61	0	114		
		E	D	C	B	A	Totals	
440		25	219	74	0	122		

Maintenance Recommendations

- Repair/replace piping with clamps/leaks.
 - Due dates based on risk except A consequence
- Design and install bypass for A consequence
 - Due dates based on risk
- Update piping/valve specifications
- Update torqueing procedure to reflect PCC1
- Rework all flanges in A and C Consequence piping



Inspection Plans

Grouping of inspections was performed per site methodology.

Implementation methodology developed for past due inspections.



Project Results

- Provided a prioritized plan to address an aging steam system
- Consistent and documented approach
- Recommendations to improve site specifications and procedures
- Maintenance plans to improve reliability
- Inspection plans to address all known damage mechanisms

