Manage Temporary Changes — Including Clamps

Did You Know?

- Pipe clamps are one of several types of engineered clamp-on, leak-sealing devices. They place a pressure envelope around the location of the leak, then use pumped-in polymers to fill their internal space and seal any gaps. Pipe clamps are effective at temporarily stopping a leak.
- All changes to a hazardous process should be reviewed, approved, and managed under your site’s management of change (MOC) process.
- Pipe clamps are not intended to last forever. Eventually, the pipe or valve should be replaced with one that conforms to the original pipe specification.
- It is easy to lose track of a temporary repair like a pipe clamp, even though it can be seen.
- The goal of an asset integrity system is to maintain the reliability of process equipment. When this system is not followed, the equipment reliability declines, and safety is compromised.

What Can You Do?

- When you see a temporary repair, ask your supervisor about it. Your question may point out an overdue review or inspection.
- Each temporary repair should have an approved temporary MOC associated with it. Temporary MOCs must be managed rigorously, including a regular check and reauthorization until the repair can be replaced with a permanent solution at the next turnaround.
- Various components of the process can be temporarily bypassed for inspection or calibration. If you see this during your rounds, point it out to your supervisor, but do not make any changes unless you have been authorized.
- Bypassed control loop or device may not be as obvious.

Temporary means temporary!

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