



STATS GROUP
Managing Pressure, Minimising Risk

2" to 20" In-Line Weld Test Tools | North Field, Qatar

Hot-work barriers and localised hydrostatic testing services to facilitate routine maintenance and the re-routing of new pipework.

STATS Group has completed hydrostatic testing services on behalf a major Gulf States operator. The workscope involved providing a verified barrier during hot work activities, followed by localised pressure testing of new welds and fittings during a planned shutdown for routine maintenance and the re-routing of new pipework.

STATS supplied 28 In-Line Weld Test Tools, ranging in size from 2" to 20", and a team of six technicians during the 12 day shutdown window.

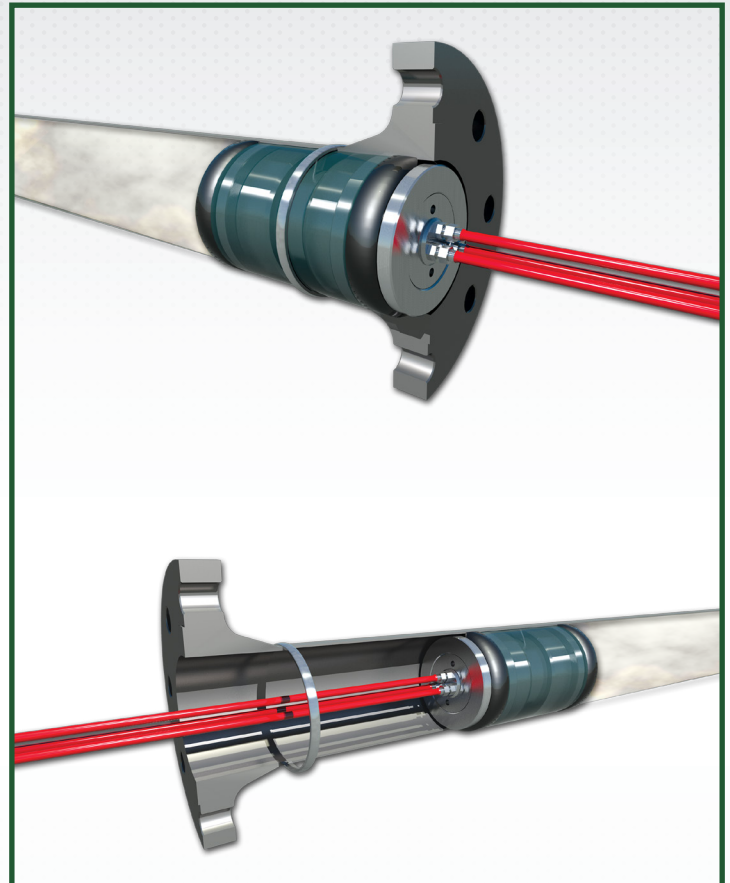
STATS Group general manager in Qatar, Vikas Shangari, said: "Our In-Line Weld Test Tools are deployed in to ambient pipework to provide a verified vapour barrier, allowing hot work to be safely and efficiently performed without the risk to personnel from the migration of flammable or harmful vapours. The same tool is then utilised to verify the integrity (hydro test) of the new weld or fitting.

"By taking this approach we were able to reduce system down-time and increase worksite safety by minimising pressure-test volume. Other time and efficiency savings were made by limiting the test area to only the new weld or welded components"

The Operator's safety philosophy requires a dual positive isolation before conducting any hot work activities. Traditionally, this means attaching blind flanges at multiple locations for every field weld and carrying out a system hydro test to prove the integrity of the new welds.

STATS' range of dual sealed test tools was used on more than 10 locations on the platform and there was no requirement to flood and dewater these large piping systems, enhancing safety and saving time and resources.

A spokesman for the Operator, said: "STATS mobilised and worked professionally to safely complete the worksopes against a tight delivery schedule. The start-up of the offshore production facilities one day in advance of the planned schedule demonstrates good planning and the decision to use STATS' proven isolation and testing solutions had a positive impact on this project."



In-Line Weld Test Tool showing weld testing and ambient vapour barrier

