

OEM Valve Specification Upgrades

Background:

ValvTechnologies met with an OEM's HRSG design engineering team to inquire about issues they were experiencing with their plant's globe valves. Due to the extreme amount of time and attention the OEM's warranty group needed to resolve issues, the problems weren't reported into 'lessons learned'. As a result, the design group was unaware of the leakage issues. Because of this, the same globe-style valves that were causing the problems continued to be specified, negatively impacting performance, reliability and profitability.

Large Scale Spec

Solution: ValvTechnologies understands how important it is to bring all decision-makers (HRSG design engineering, optimization, warranty, start-up commissioning groups, controls teams, engineering design review board) together to collaborate and agree upon a strategy going forward. The groups agreed to launch a comprehensive valve investigation where they discovered:

- **Globe valve seat damage:** The seats were easily damaged due to the exposure to the media flow that naturally prohibits full sealing capability.
- **Globe valve seat leakage:** Globe valves inherently leak brand new going into the systems as they are only tested to Class IV, V or VI enabling 'hidden leakage' past the downstream seat. Leak paths never improve, they only worsen over time, requiring valves to be continually repaired or cut out of line and replaced.
- **Globe valve seat leakage:** OEM's start-up and commissioning groups invested significant time replacing gland packing and re-torquing the valves, resulting in time and attention being taken from other issues.

Plant type: Global OEM/EPC
Industry: Power
Application: HRSG applications



- **Unsatisfied customers:** To quickly resolve problems, the OEM incurred the cost of repairs and replacements themselves rather than spending precious time in issuing warranty claims with the original globe valve suppliers. Their primary focus was getting the plant delivered to the customer on-time.
- **LDs and back charges:** Leaking valve issues prohibited the OEM from handing the plant over to the end-user that further raised efficiency and performance promise concerns. All of which were directly connected to the looming threat of hefty IDs / backcharges and payment delays, impacting the OEM further down the line through negative cash flow.