



Intelligent System Solutions®

CASE STUDY



Steam Trap Monitoring

Customer: VA Hospital

Location: North Eastern U.S.

Scope of Work: A 60 year-old VA Hospital required steam system assistance due to declining infrastructure and reduced steamfitter staff. This multi-building campus had a trap population of 2,000 that had been using an unreliable trap monitoring system.


Armstrong International provided a recommended solution to the VA's reduced maintenance staff's need to monitor traps more efficiently and reliably.



Upgrade Projects: Armstrong provided a beta test for the Armstrong SteamEye® steam trap monitoring system. The beta test resulted in a complete steam trap audit that revealed a 60% trap failure rate. The energy loss through 1,200 failed traps made a strong case for immediate system wide repairs. Armstrong provided a complete turnkey installation of the SteamEye® monitoring system as well as the replacement of all failed traps.

Investment: Total value of the project was \$1.2 million.

Benefits: The SteamEye® retrofit proposal was accepted, and the \$1.2 million project was undertaken for some 2,000 traps. At \$11.50 per thousand pounds cost of steam, the annualized savings totaled \$163,000 and the potential payback was under 7.3 years. The project qualified as a means to reach the energy reduction goals in Executive Order 13123 that mandates a 20% reduction by FY'2005. It also qualified under a state program for energy credits that yielded utility savings for the facility. Finally, it gave the facility control over the systems costs for the first time. The maintenance and facility managers were so pleased with the outcome that they began efforts to use the same system at a nearby facility under their jurisdiction.

 UTILITY SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS, INC.	GSA Authorized Participating Dealer Verified SDVOSB, SBA 8(a), SDB 3030 LBJ Freeway, Suite 700 Dallas, TX 75234-7763	Phone: 214-722-7506 Fax: 214-7227676 www.us2inc.com sales@us2inc.com
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