

Case Study: Condenser Plug Change-Out Application

EST Group Removes 1100 Rubber & Tapered Fiber Plugs and Damaged Sleeves from Condenser Water Boxes for Fossil Fuel Power Customer

Industry/Facility

Power - Fossil Fuel (Oil)

Application

Condenser Plug Change-Out

Challenge/Problem

EST Group was contacted by a leader in the Power-Fossil Fuel (Oil) industry, whose plant suffered plug failure (rubber and tapered fiber) in their condenser during winter when water in the tubes froze, causing plugs to eject. Subsequently, leaking tubes took on seawater (salt water), causing damage to other components downstream in the system. The leaking condenser tubes caused problems that could have been avoided.



Solution/Resolution

EST Group Field Services team removed approximately 1100 existing rubber & tapered fiber plugs and tube sleeves from their condenser water boxes and replaced them with Pop-A-Plug® CPI/Perma Tube Plugs (V899H and V919H 70/30 CuNi). Additionally, the Field Services team also verified and corrected tubesheet maps for the customer.

Benefits/Outcome

The customer realized the temporary rubber and tapered fiber plugs they were using were costing them more money, and doing more harm than good. When tapered/hammered-in pins fail, they can turn into lethal projectiles that can pose a real safety hazard for workers, and in this case also caused additional damage to the customer's equipment. This issue was eliminated by installing Pop-A-Plug® CPI/Perma Plugs. Pop-A-Plug® Tube Plugs are able to provide a safe, permanent and reliable solution that is quick and easy to install. In fact, the installation went so smoothly, the team of five, who were onsite for eight days, were able to complete work one day ahead of schedule, saving the customer additional money.

