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POWER

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EDITORIAL PREVIEWS

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Pre-Show Issue

From traditional central power stations and grid infrastructure to distributed energy resources and the hydrogen economy, Experience POWER covers all aspects of the electric power sector and facilitates the conversations necessary to manage the global energy transition to cleaner power sources.

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COVER FOCUS: COAL TOP PLANTS

Osaki Cool Gen, Japan

The Osaki Cool Gen project aims to develop a solid oxide fuel cell fueled by coal-derived hydrogen. The 166 MW demonstration plant progresses an oxygen-blown gasification technology. It consists of an integrated gasification combined cycle component as well as the integrated gasification fuel cell and a pre-combustion CO₂ capture pilot. The whole plant is designed to achieve 42.7% efficiency (LHV, net), including CO₂ capture, with the fuel cell component targeting an efficiency of 55%.

Shanghaimiao Power Plant, China

Four 1,000-MW coal-fired power units are being built in a northwestern region of Inner Mongolia. The facility is the largest coal-fired power station currently under construction in China. The first unit is online in an area with significant coal reserves in Shanghaimiao, located in Ordos. The units will eventually send power to Shandong province via what government officials have said is a long-distance, ultra-high-voltage grid.

FEATURES

Spotlight on Southern Company

Southern Company, headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, is one of America's premier energy companies. It serves 9 million customers with clean, safe, reliable, and affordable energy through its electric and natural gas subsidiaries, a competitive generation company, a leading distributed energy infrastructure company, a fiber optics network, and wireless communications. This article will provide some background on the company, its history, and how it is preparing for the future.

The Role of Videoscopes in Gas Turbine Inspections: Insights from the Field

Gas turbines are and will continue to be a critical part of the energy sector. Given the pressures, temperatures, tolerances, and impact engine failure can have, knowing the mechanical health of each engine is as critical as the engine itself. Videoscopes are instrumental in assessing that health. They allow an inspector to see, analyze, and

measure items of interest inside the engine. This article explores the role of videoscopes in gas turbine inspections and discusses key videoscope capabilities that overcome common issues encountered in the field.

Station Life Extension Through Coal-to-Gas Conversion

This article explains how a unique approach to project execution could keep your power plant in operation. It follows a project, which was executed with the ideals of shared risk and shared success, from conception through commissioning. This unique approach to executing a fuel conversion project has resulted in a significant life extension to the thermal plants in question and a lifeline for the communities that support them. The units were upgraded to state-of-the-art technology and a cleaner fuel with substantial reductions in both NOx and CO2, while also optimizing the unit heat rate and efficiency to allow these units to remain competitive even in the age of combined cycles.

Innovating Grid Resilience from the Outside In

One area for utilities that is in dire need of rapid operational innovation is grid resiliency, and some are seeking innovative grid hardening help from the outside in. This article touches on three recent Gulf Coast implementations that illustrate how operational innovation—Structural Resiliency as a Service—is an effective and efficient solution that can be customized for a specific utility's needs.

Plant Manages More Than a Decade of Dewpoint Corrosion Protection

This article shares the experience of South Humber Bank Power Station in the UK. Facing issues during routine maintenance shutdown of heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs), South Humber began using VCI (Vapor Corrosion Inhibitor) technology in 2009 to solve the plant's dewpoint corrosion problem. Although it relies on a longstanding chemistry applied in industrial layup and preservation situations around the globe, this highly effective and efficient technology is still unfamiliar to some.

The Power of Cow Manure: How Farms of the Future Are Transforming Waste-to-Energy Operations

The use of renewable energy in the agriculture industry is an exciting new frontier that can bring environmental and economic benefits to farmers, surrounding communities, and the renewable fuel industry. And it truly revolves around manure.

Waste-to-Energy Plants Suffer from Unplanned Shutdowns Caused by Boiler Failure

A recent survey revealed that equipment failures in waste-to-energy (WtE) and biomass power plants were responsible for a total of 22.9 days of unplanned shutdowns in 2021 and 43% of equipment failure classifications were boilers. This article discusses one of the most common contributing factors behind boiler failure: corrosion.

Small-Scale Biodigesters Are Getting a Big Improvement in Thermal Control

Small-scale biodigesters are an effective waste management solution for small to mid-size farms that provide valuable byproducts in the form of burnable biogas and nutrient-dense liquid fertilizer. In cold-weather climates, these digesters experience shutdown without proper thermal control. However, a new solution offers an inexpensive and passive thermal control system that can easily be adapted to existing and newly fabricated biodigesters to increase operational time, and ultimately, biogas production.

How Private Wireless Solutions Enable Digital Power Plants' Transformation

New technologies such as machine learning and digital twins are transforming the digital power plant industry, and private wireless networks are the key drivers in connecting and enabling these revolutionary Industry 4.0 technologies. Ubiquitous connectivity is critical for monitoring real-time working environments and ensuring that workers get the support they need, no matter the location. This article highlights how an industry standards-based broadband technology supports current mobile voice and wireless data applications, and enables and fuels digital operations technologies, such as enterprise-wide asset management, process optimization, and data integration, as well as improved worker communications, safety, and facility security to further the digital transformation of power generation plants.

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