

Cost-effective solution for pipeline leak detection

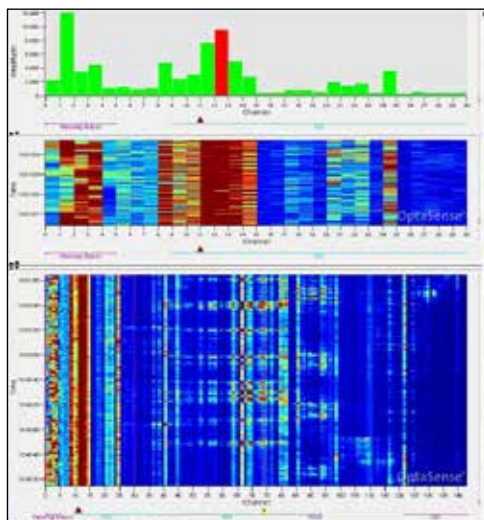
Pengerang Co-generation Plant (PCP) and the Regasification Terminal 2 (RGT2) gas pipeline

OptaSense recently completed the first fiber optic cable (FOC) leak detection system installation for PETRONAS Malaysia on a short (2km) spur gas pipeline.

The pipeline feeds the Pengerang Co-generation Plant (PCP) and the Regasification Terminal 2 (RGT2), which supply the primary gas requirements for the Pengerang Integrated Complex refinery and petrochemical plants



PETRONAS has traditionally used conventional mass balance leak detections solutions but had indicated that this solution was often ineffective where cases of insufficient completion. OptaSense experts recommended the use of a fiber optic-based Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) solution to for leak detection. The OptaSense DAS solution has been proven to be more cost effective for leak detection than conventional detection solutions which would have required active measuring equipment along the pipeline. With the OptaSense solution in place, PETRONAS now has the option of using DAS for third party intrusion and pigging with minimum software cost requirements.



Solution:

Following the installation of the system, extensive Site Acceptance Testing took place to demonstrate that the system had been correctly installed and was working appropriately within PETRONAS' required parameters. A series of acceptance tests were performed with the OptaSense system successfully passing each test.

Based on the success of the acceptance testing, PETRONAS is now reviewing their internal pipeline leak detection system specifications and adopting fiber optic distributed acoustic sensing as an accepted solution.

The successful installation has now opened the door for future opportunities with PETRONAS, who have several new long-range projects in the works, including 550km of pipeline in eastern Malaysia and 850km in western Malaysia.