



Spirax Sarco supplies turnkey boiler house for gas project

Spirax Sarco has supplied Costain Oil, Gas and Process Ltd (COGAP) with a complete packaged boiler house worth £640,000. The boiler house is part of a £100 million project to build a gas processing facility in the North West of England, for which COGAP was the main contractor.

The turnkey contract covered the design, manufacture, supply, installation and commissioning of all the boiler house equipment, as well as the building to house it. In addition to the boiler itself, Spirax Sarco supplied the associated pumps, a de-aerator package, a blowdown system, a fully insulated and clad chimney and all the latest controls and safety features. All the electrical equipment had to be EExd and ATEX rated for use in hazardous areas.

The boiler can deliver 11 tonnes per hour of steam at 10 bar g. The steam is used to drive a process to sweeten the sour gas coming onto the site.

COGAP stated that they had chosen Spirax Sarco because of the company's all-round capability, "Spirax was the only company to offer the complete package, with the design and management being part of their scope."

One big advantage offered by the Spirax Sarco boiler house package was that it was designed and built off-site. Spirax Sarco completed the design and the entire boiler plant was then assembled by Plant Energy Systems (recently renamed Armstrong Integrated Systems) at its factory in Halesowen. Constructing a plant off-site in a controlled factory environment is a big bonus to health and safety at a busy build site. It also tends to be quicker and quality is easier to maintain. Once the completed system arrives on site,

commissioning is usually simpler, because everything is pre-snagged and pre-commissioned in the works. All this adds up to typical savings of 20% compared with traditional on-site construction methods.

'Spirax was the only company to offer the complete package'

Logistics is typically the biggest challenge in successful off-site construction and this project was no exception. Because the fabricator had very limited storage on site, Spirax Sarco's project management and engineered systems personnel had to programme the work precisely to ensure that all the components arrived at just the right time.

Once the factory acceptance tests were complete, the whole thing was disassembled into four modules plus the boiler. The police then provided an overnight escort as five lorries transported the modules to the build site. Once there, a 50-tonne crane took just four days to re-assemble the boiler house and chimney in situ.

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