



Southern California Edison SF6 Gas Management Program Update

By
Marc Flores
Alex Salinas
Southern California Edison

Overview

- ⇒ Goals and objectives of “Gas Management Program”
- ⇒ Gas Management process
- ⇒ Program Implementation
- ⇒ Program results
- ⇒ Program Challenges
- ⇒ Future Goals and Objectives

Goals and Objectives

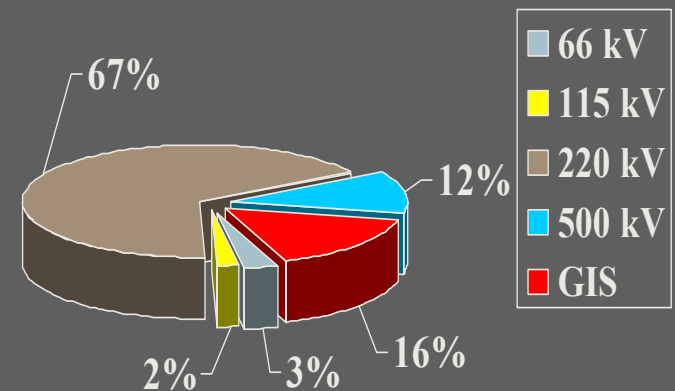
Gas Management Program

- ⇒ Conform with EPA/MOU
- ⇒ Reduce overall emissions
- ⇒ Reduce O & M costs
- ⇒ Improve productivity
- ⇒ Increase data collection accuracy
- ⇒ Enhance asset management decisions

Gas Management Process

- Total Gas in Equipment
 - 2361 Gas Circuit Breakers
 - Four GIS Facilities
 - ~ 540,000 lbs. SF₆ Total
 - Net increase of ~ 40,000 lbs since 2000
- Inventory
 - Cylinders ~ 34,000 lbs. annually

Gas Distribution in Equipment



Gas Management Process (cont)

- Tracking Method
 - Weigh cylinders before returning to supplier
 - Log and report quarterly
 - Cylinders returned to supplier
 - Residual
 - Gas purchases
 - Annually reporting – “Mass Balance Approach”
 - Total residual
 - Used gas removed from retired equipment
 - Recycled
 - New equipment

Program Implementation

⇒ Identify leaks using asset management tools

- Work management system
 - Frequency of gas added
 - Type of equipment
- Equipment history
 - Dual pressure systems et al

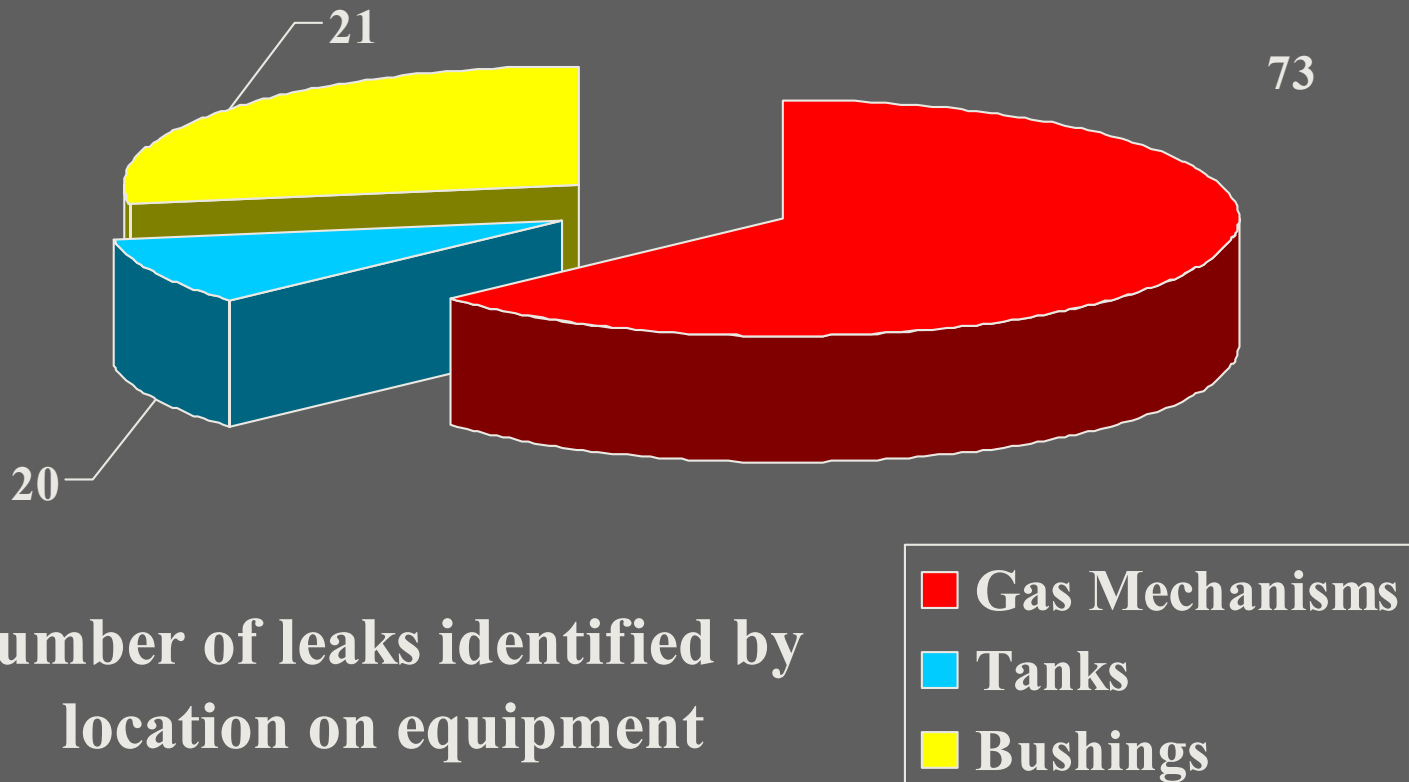
⇒ Leak detection methods

- CO2 laser leak detection technology
- Conventional (soap bubbles, halogen)

Program Implementation (cont.)

- ⇒ Develop priority list leak detection
 - Worst leaks “low hanging fruit”
 - Station with most leaking equipment
 - Scheduled internal inspections
- ⇒ Incorporate priority list in PMA process
 - Specialist surveys equipment using laser leak detection equipment
 - Process initiates report
 - Enables better asset management decisions
 - Repair vs replace

Leak Detection Results



Number of leaks identified by location on equipment

Program Challenges

- ⇒ Tension between priorities
 - Required scheduled maintenance vs. repairing leaking equipment
 - Resource constraints
- ⇒ Data Gathering
 - Accuracy in documentation
 - Consistency in following the established process
- ⇒ Year End Data Analysis
 - Cumbersome and time consuming

Program Challenges (cont.)

⇒ Buy in to program

- Culture change with supervisors and maintenance personnel
- Completing repairs
- Cylinder consolidation
- Emptying cylinders

⇒ Large Projects

- Outage constraints
- Handling large quantities

Program Challenges (cont.)

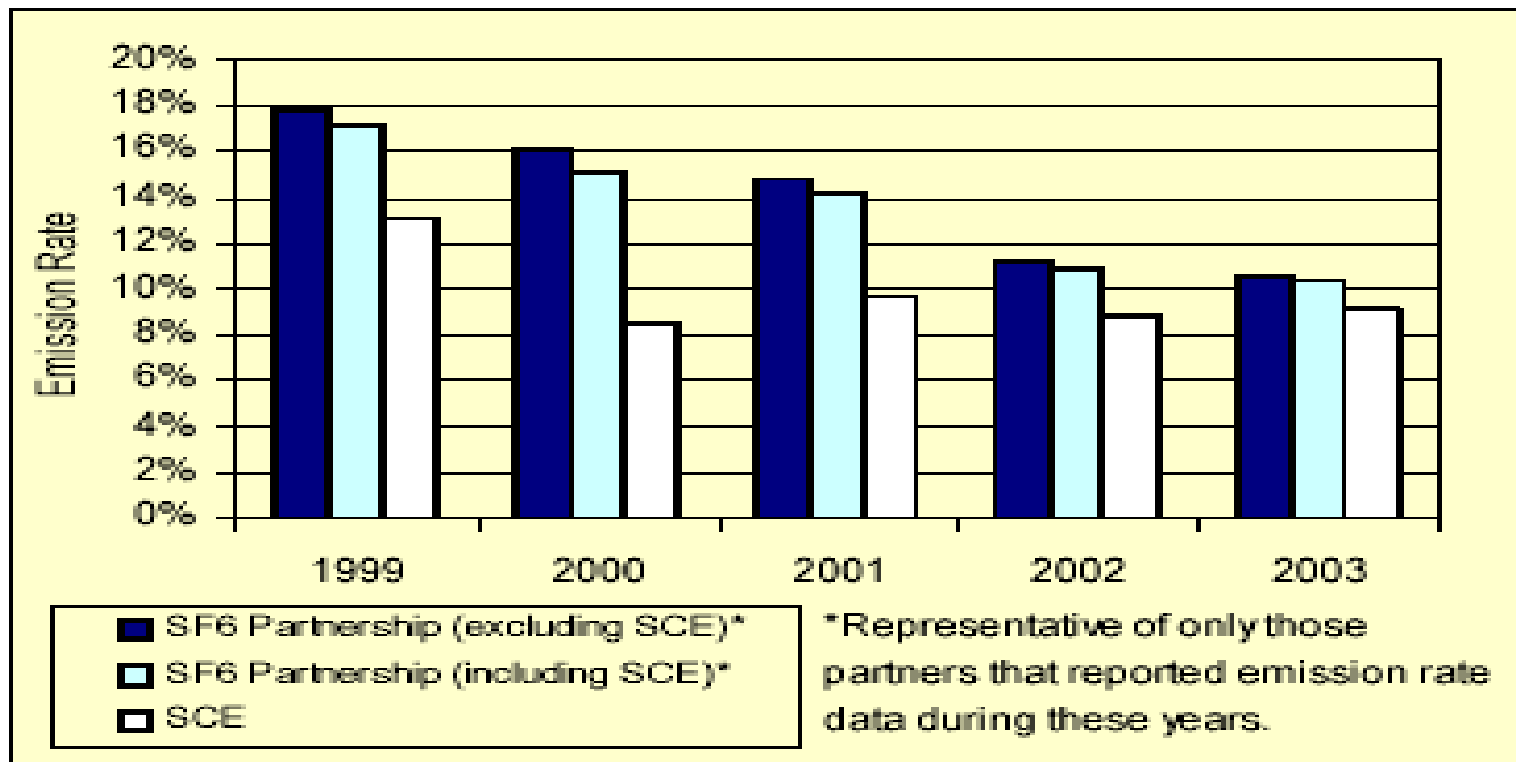
⇒ Equipment Repairs

- Bushings
- Leak sealing
- Parts issues, tubing, manifolds etc.

⇒ Facility Service Agreements

- Third party equipment ownership
- Limited authorization to make repairs
- Case justification for equipment replacement

Program Results



SF6 Emission Rate – Comparison of SCE and Partners of the SF6 Emission Reduction Partnership

Lessons Learned

- ⇒ “Mass Balance Approach” can be effective when guidelines are followed
 - Checks and balances
 - Control in data reporting
 - Effective allocation of resources
- ⇒ Closer oversight would be resource depleting
 - Weighing cylinders
 - Centralization
- ⇒ Reducing emissions on older equipment is not as easy as it appears

Future Goals and Objectives

- ⇒ Develop equipment criteria rating
 - Cost benefit analysis for repairs
 - Establish equipment criticality to the “grid”
 - Technical benefits for replacement
- ⇒ Realize program benefits
 - Quantifying financial results
 - Emission reduction goals

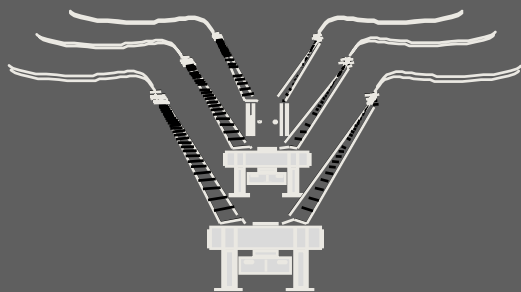
Future Goals and Objectives (cont.)

⇒ Develop automated data collection process

- Data collection would migrate into dedicated database
- Database can generate emission reports
- Populate annual reporting form
- Process would improve data accuracy

CONCLUSION

- ⇒ Making progress for emission reduction goals despite setbacks
- ⇒ Laser leak detection equipment demonstrates benefits and strong potential
- ⇒ Closed loop and automated process is essential moving forward
- ⇒ Programs must allow for process improvement



Southern California Edison