Recovery of Flash Gas From Storage Tanks at an Offshore Production Platform Using Scroll Compression Technology

> Presented by G.W. (Bill) Schneider







Case Study Background

Major independent offshore GOM platform refurbishment







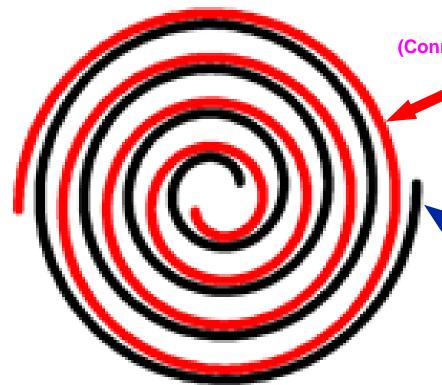
Scroll Compression Technology

 Typical A/C compressor
 Hermetically sealed positive displacement machine using two interleaved scrolls – electric driven
 In VRU applications since 2004





How does Scroll Compression work? ...continuous orbiting motion



"Fixed Scroll" (Connected to compressor body)

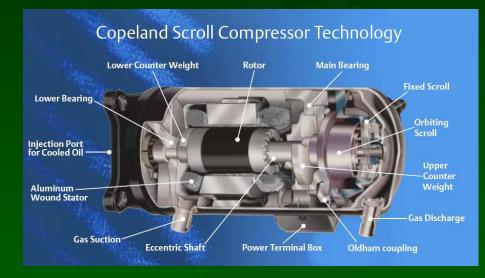
"Orbiting Scroll"

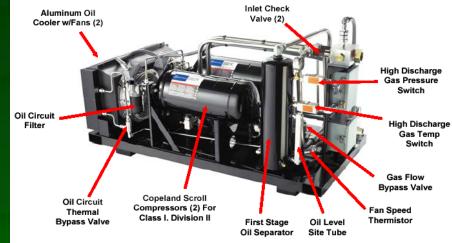
Connected to crankshaft and orbits rather than rotates)





Copeland Scroll® Compressor

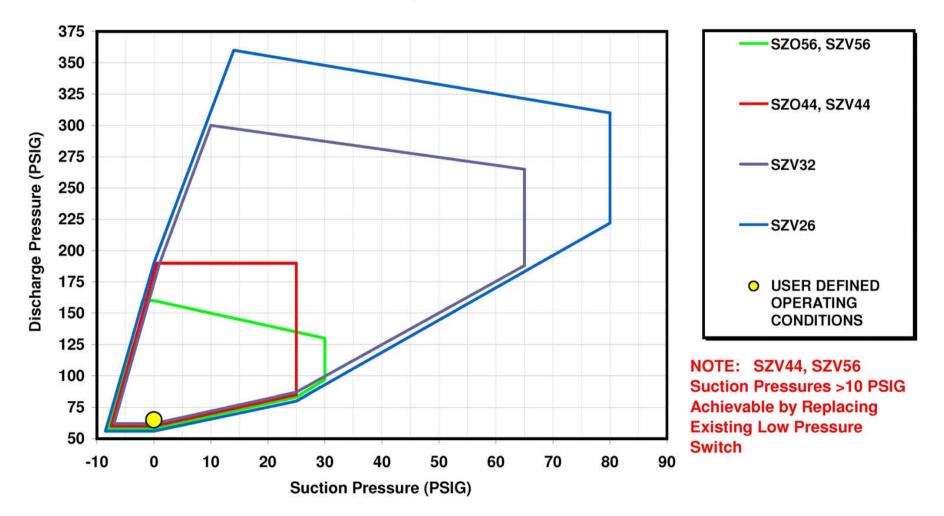








Operating Map for Dual Copeland Scroll^R Gas Compression Modules



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Benefits of Scroll Compression for Vapor Recovery

Hermetically sealed design
Smaller footprint
Less maintenance, more run time
Low noise level
Lower overall cost than typical VRU





Application of Scroll Technology

- Recovering gas from oil storage tanks and heater treater and discharging pressurized gas to larger compressor
 VRU system requires electrical power
- and purge gas for recycle
- High molecular weight gas recovery





COMM Scroll Compressor Package

- 4' wide x 8' long skid
- Inlet gas scrubber and aftercoolers
- Control panel with PLC and variable frequency drive (VFD)
- Volume capacity 200,000 scf per day







Offshore System Modifications (API RP 14C)

- Three part epoxy coating
- Safety system additions
 - Scrubber high level alarm
 - High discharge pressure alarm
 - Low suction pressure alarm
 - High pressure alarm on tanks
- Located control panels in MCC





Scroll Package Pictures









Investment Summary

Standard VRU package Saltwater modifications Safety modifications Installation Startup/Commissioning

Total Investment



\$135,000 \$15,000 \$5,000 \$40,000 \$6,000

\$201,000



Results

Average recovery – 58,000 scf per day Peak recovery rate – 215,000 scf per day

Simple Payout – 15 months





Summary

Lowers emissions of VOCs and GHGs

- Lower maintenance costs
- Requires small footprint
- Cost effective and efficient VRU for offshore environment





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