

REPAIR &  
MITIGATION

# HRH Bypass Cracking

Diederick Godin, P.Eng. (AB) – Capital Power: Senior Manager, Mechanical & Optimization

Ory Selzer – IMI CCI: Valve Doctor, Manager – Application Engineering

Support from: Adrian Martinez, P.Eng. – Plant Engineer, Goreway Power Station

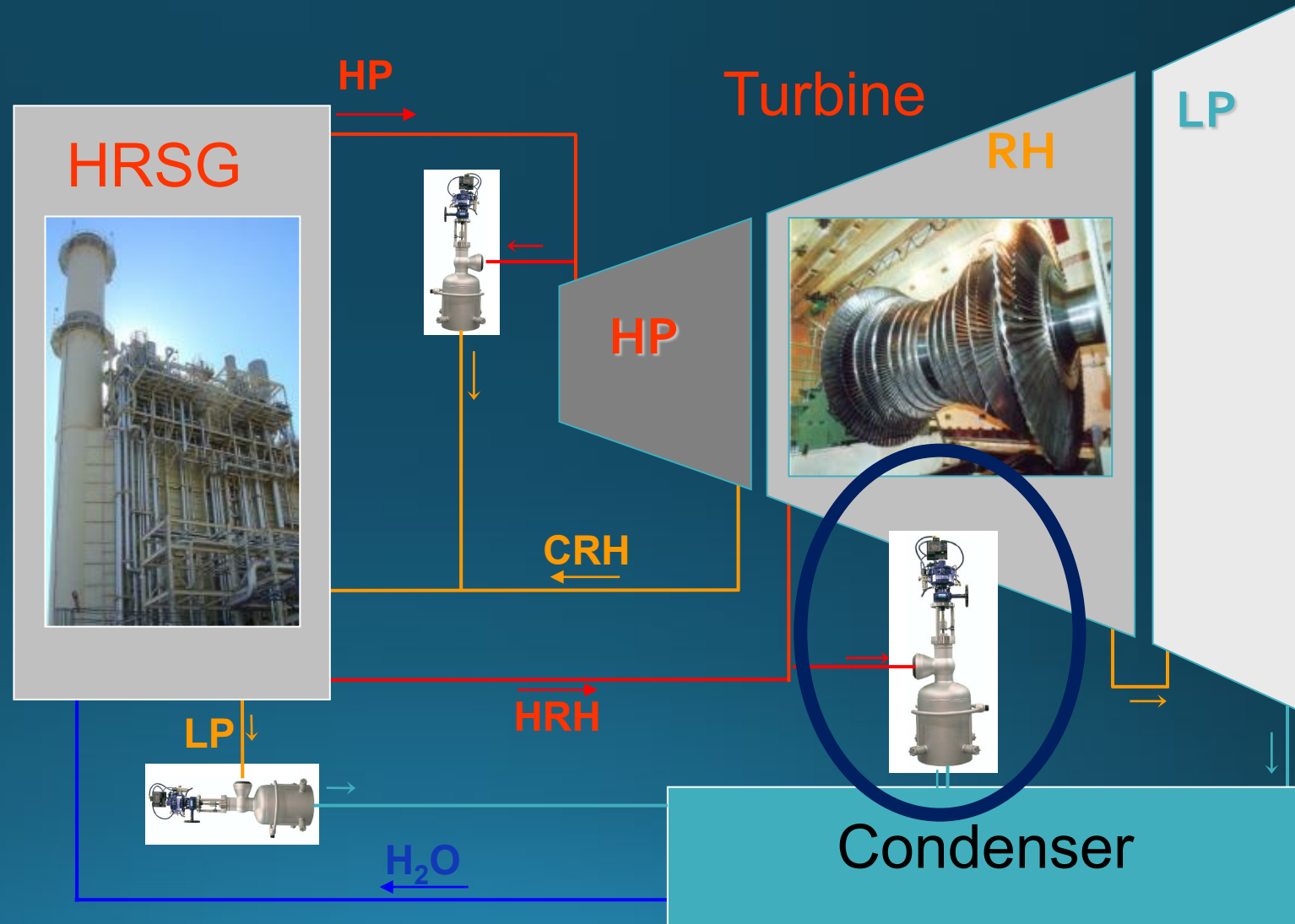
# Goreway Power Station

- Brampton, ONT, CAN (Toronto)
- Commercial June 2009
- 875MW 3-on-1
- GE 7FB\*.04 Gas Turbines
- SST-5000 Steam Turbine
- EPC – SNC Lavalin
- Purchased by Capital Power in 2019



# HRH Bypass – Application Overview

- Bypass HRH steam to condenser during startup, shutdown & trips
- Largest Bypass Valves
  - 16 - 20" Inlet
  - 24 - 42" Outlet
- Highest temperature differences
  - STEAM = ~1050F
  - WATER = ~120F
  - >900F Difference!
- Largest spray
  - 30% Water to Steam





## Unique: Dump to ACC, 2-stage desuperheating, Low-Noise

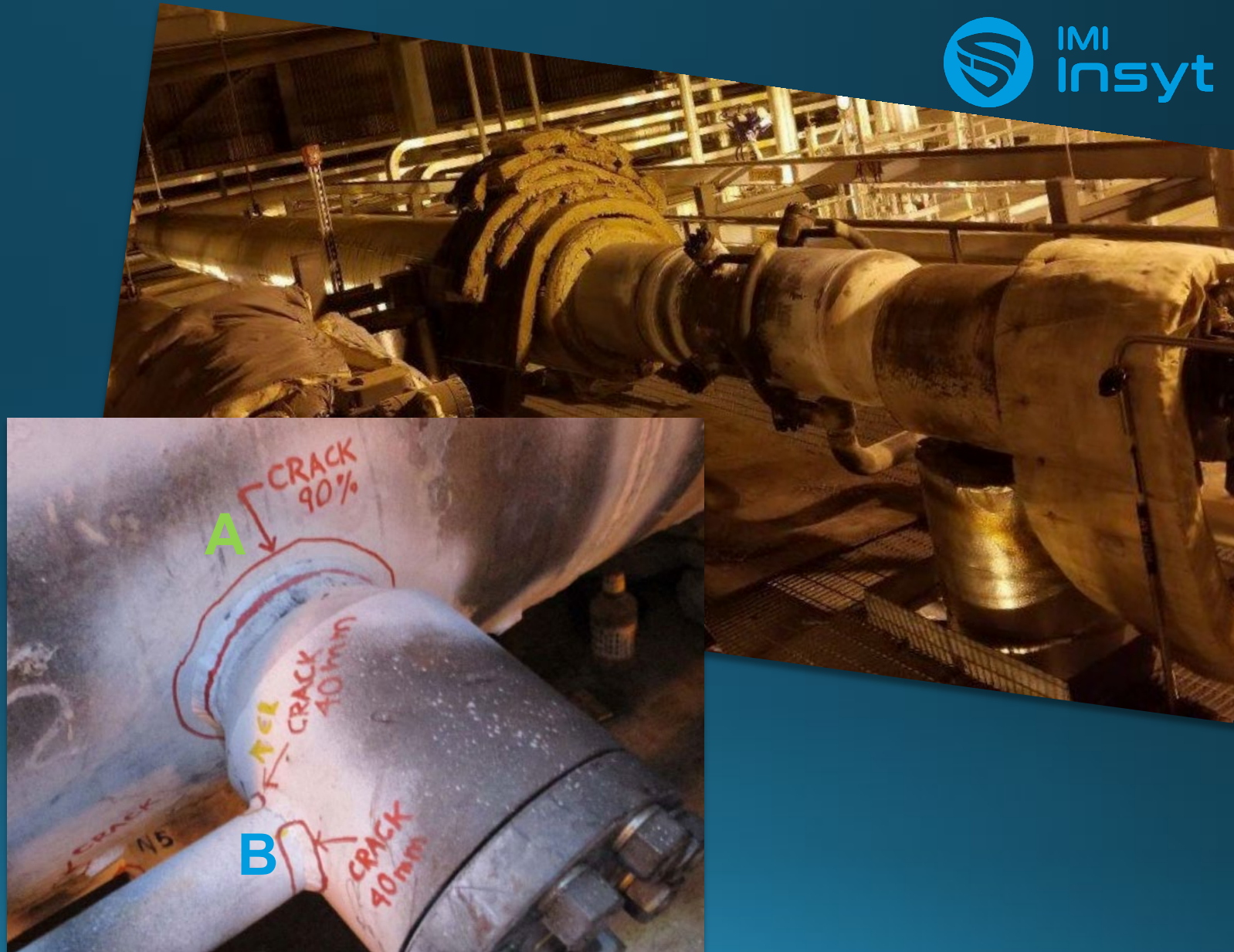
Technical drawing of a vertical machine, likely a press or testing equipment. The drawing shows the machine's profile with various dimensions in inches (") and millimeters (mm) in parentheses. Key dimensions include:

- Top section diameter: 380 DIA. (15)
- Top section height: 15
- Maximum height: 3100 (122) MAX
- Overall height: 24" m
- INLET port: 328.4 (12.93)
- Height from inlet to base: 342.9 (13.5)
- Base diameter: 1800 ± 6.3 (63.0 ± 25)
- Base height: 609.6 (24.0)
- Base width: 508.0 (20)
- OUTLET port
- Bottom section height: 17



# Initial Failures

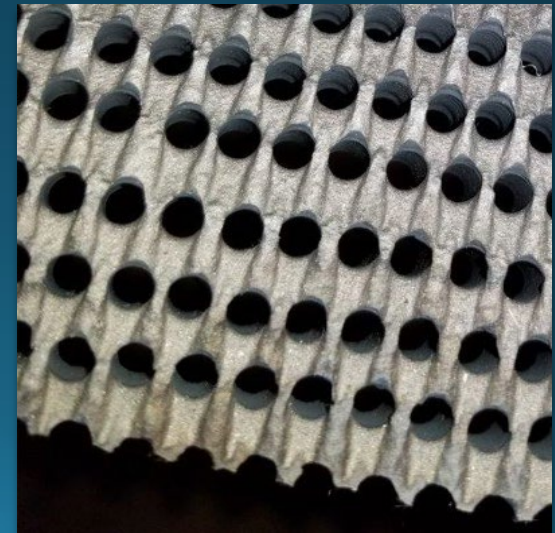
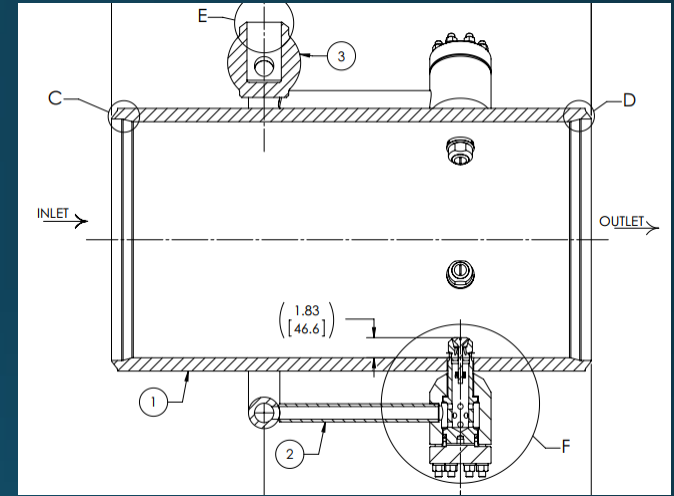
- Liners removed several years into operation due to cracks
- Cracks at nozzle housing to pipe connections [point **A**]
- Water manifold cracks [point **B**]
- Severity required a new desuperheater





# New Desuperheater Installation

- New upgraded desuperheater purchased – only the outer pipe spool, nozzles and manifold
- Major finding during first installation –  
DIFFUSER FAILURE
  - END PLATE LIBERATION
  - INTERNAL EROSION DAMAGE ON DIFFUSER
- Upgrade design modified to include new diffusers



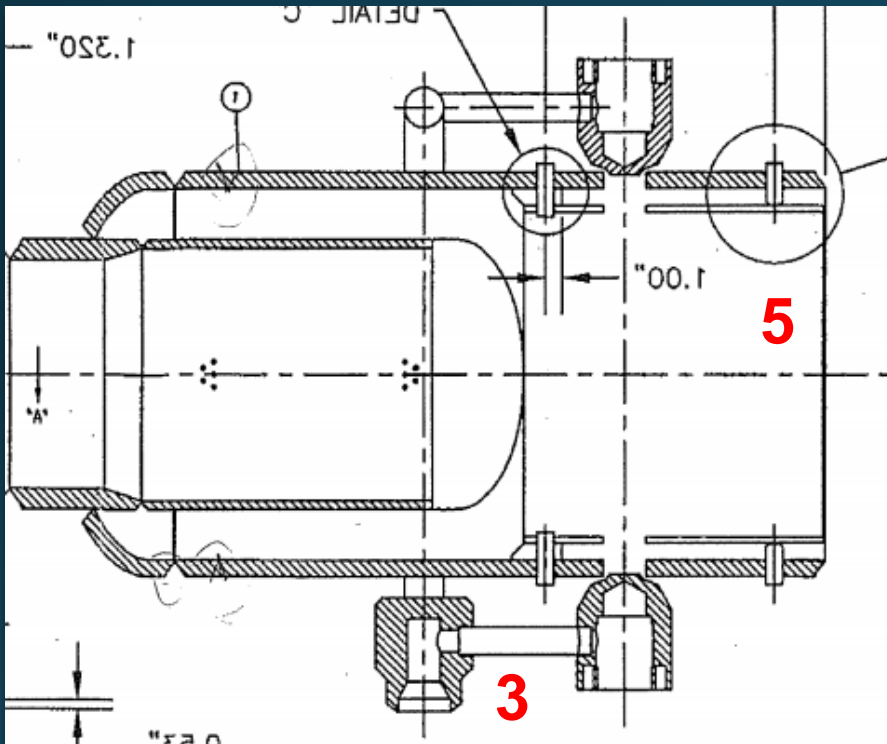
# New Desuperheater w/ Diffuser

- Original “spool only” desuperheater sent back and modified to include new diffuser
- Final unit being installed this week!

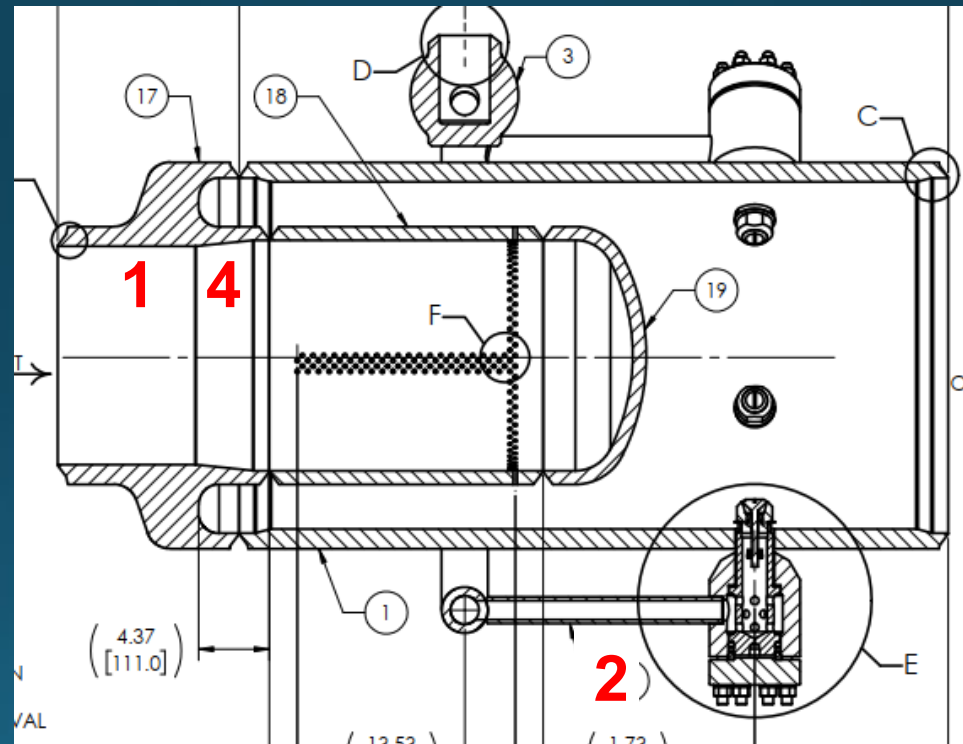


# Hardware Upgrade

ORIGINAL DESUPERHEATER



UPGRADED DESUPERHEATER



1. New forged transition piece
2. Longer water legs
3. No water leg into water connection
4. Longer transition to diffuser
5. Liner removed



# Mitigation: Root Cause

- Your Problem
- Your Data
- Your System



IMI Insynt



- Solutions
- Savings
- Safety
- Value

- Our Knowledge
- Our History
- Our Tools



## Be proactive

Identify plant and equipment issues before cracks and leaks occur.



## Delve into data

Use data-driven analytics to improve plant safety and performance.



## Improve your ROI

A system-wide analysis saves plant costs and avoids shutdowns.

# Data Set

- 4 weeks of data provided – 28 total starts across 3 units
- 104 discrete process variables across 3 units
- 10 second interval
- 25M data points loaded

UNIT 11 – 10 Starts	
17-MAY-21	COLD START 6:41AM
17-MAY-21	Shutdown 20:12
20-MAY-21	WARM START 1:50AM
20-MAY-21	Shutdown 20:22
21-MAY-21	HOT START 4:55AM
21-MAY-21	Shutdown 15:22
31-MAY-21	COLD START 5:12AM
31-MAY-21	Shutdown 21:31
01-JUN-21	HOT START 2:40AM
01-JUN-21	Shutdown 23:36
04-JUN-21	WARM START 3:49AM
04-JUN-21	Shutdown 15:23
06-JUN-21	WARM START 2:47AM
06-JUN-21	Shutdown 20:22
07-JUN-21	HOT START 4:22AM
07-JUN-21	Shutdown 22:30
08-JUN-21	HOT START 2:54AM
09-JUN-21	Shutdown 22:22
10-JUN-21	HOT START 5:01AM
10-JUN-21	Shutdown 14:22

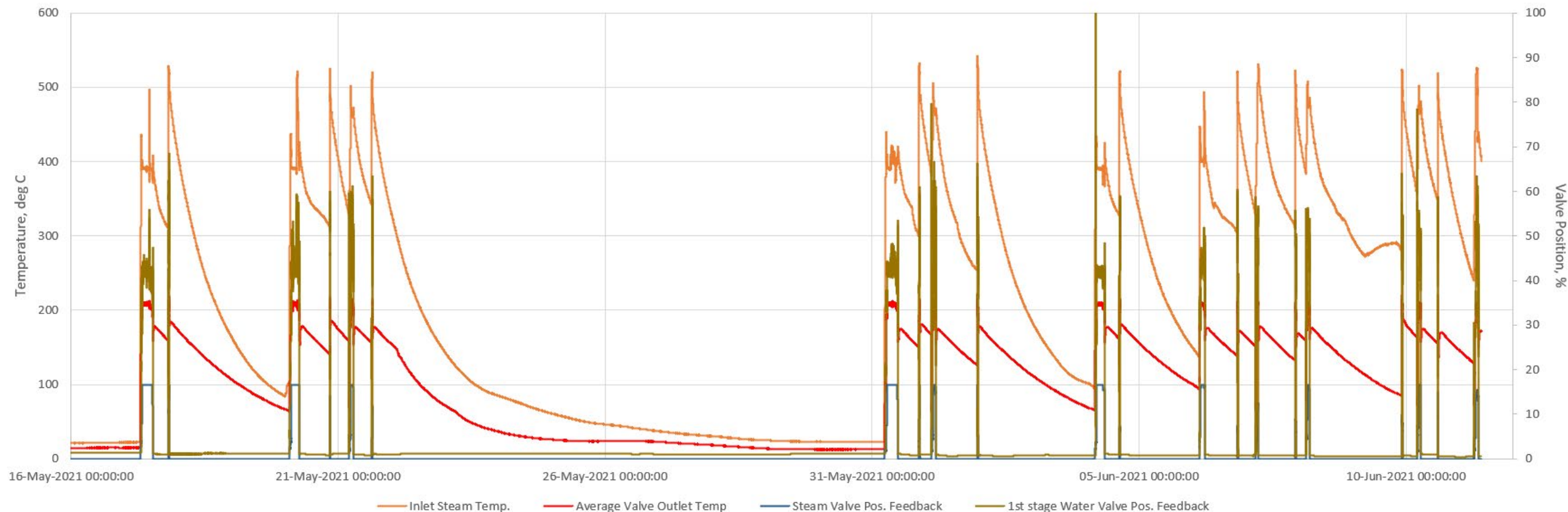
UNIT 12 – 9 Starts	
17-MAY-21	COLD START 5:21AM
17-MAY-21	Shutdown 20:12
20-MAY-21	WARM START 1:22AM
20-MAY-21	Shutdown 20:44
21-MAY-21	HOT START 4:40AM
21-MAY-21	Shutdown 15:47
31-MAY-21	COLD START 4:55AM
31-MAY-21	Shutdown 21:31
-	-
-	-
04-JUN-21	COLD START 3:34AM
04-JUN-21	Shutdown 15:42
06-JUN-21	WARM START 2:21AM
06-JUN-21	Shutdown 20:42
07-JUN-21	HOT START 1:32AM
07-JUN-21	Shutdown 22:46
08-JUN-21	HOT START 2:42AM
09-JUN-21	Shutdown 22:42
10-JUN-21	HOT START 4:45AM
10-JUN-21	Shutdown 14:43

UNIT 13 – 9 Starts	
-	-
-	-
20-MAY-21	COLD START 1:22AM
20-MAY-21	Shutdown 20:43
21-MAY-21	HOT START 4:39AM
21-MAY-21	Shutdown 15:47
31-MAY-21	COLD START 4:53AM
31-MAY-21	Shutdown 18:21
01-JUN-21	HOT START 2:40AM
01-JUN-21	Shutdown 14:40
04-JUN-21	WARM START 3:28AM
04-JUN-21	Shutdown 15:42
06-JUN-21	WARM START 8:23AM
06-JUN-21	Shutdown 20:42
07-JUN-21	HOT START 1:38AM
07-JUN-21	Shutdown 22:46
08-JUN-21	HOT START 2:43AM
09-JUN-21	Shutdown 22:43
10-JUN-21	HOT START 4:45AM
10-JUN-21	Shutdown 14:43

# Where to Start?

- Visualize the full data set? – Excel UGH!
- What am I looking for? – How deep do I go?

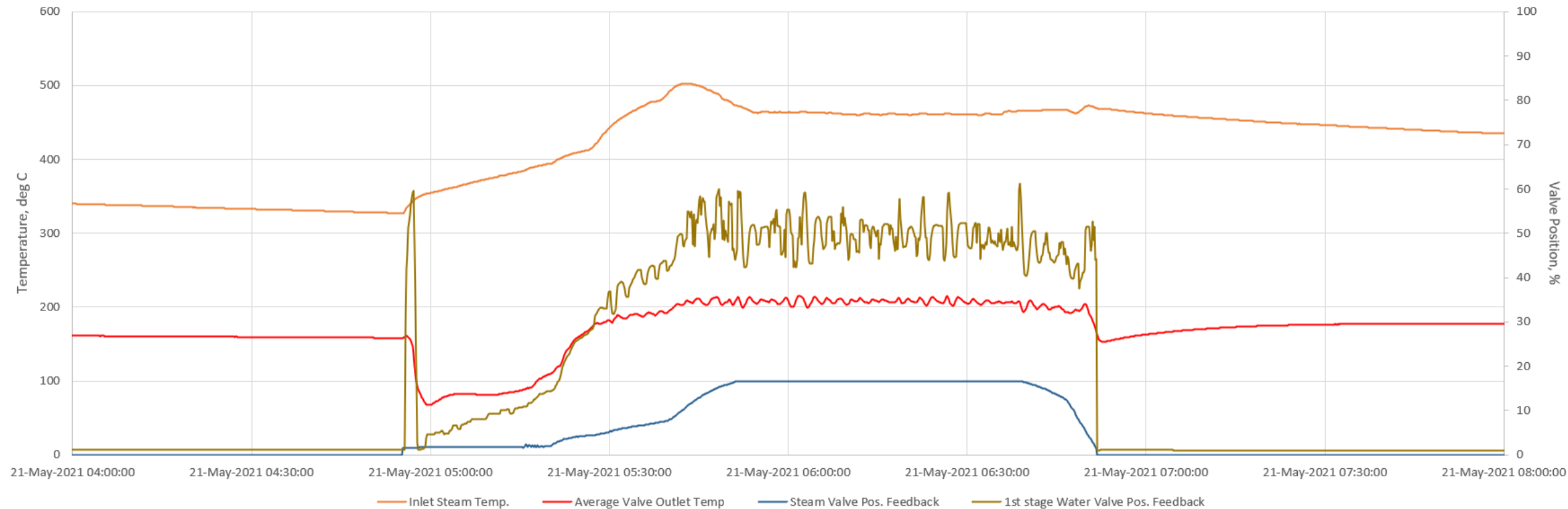
HRH Bypass Operation - 4 weeks of Data





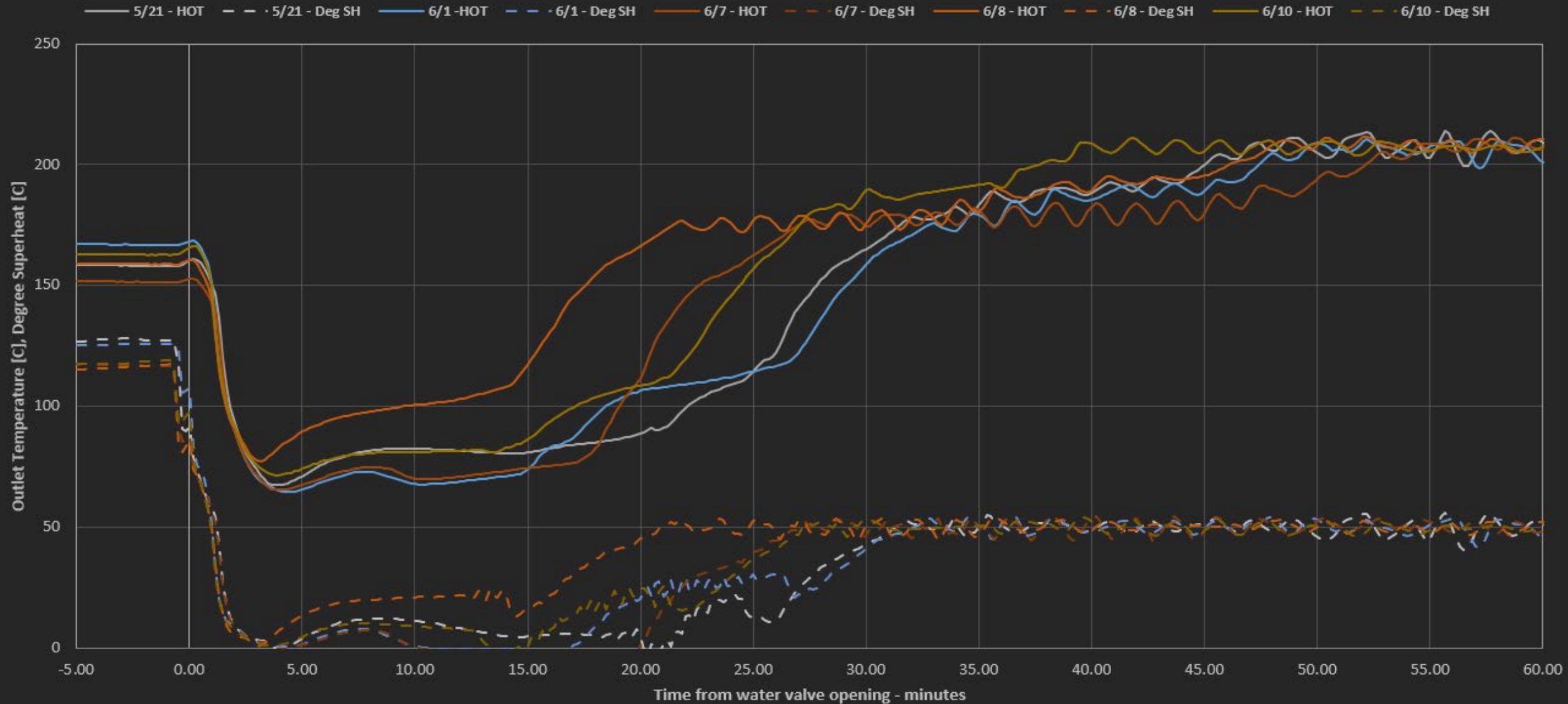
# “Strip Chart” of Startup

HRH Bypass Operation - 5/21 Hot Start



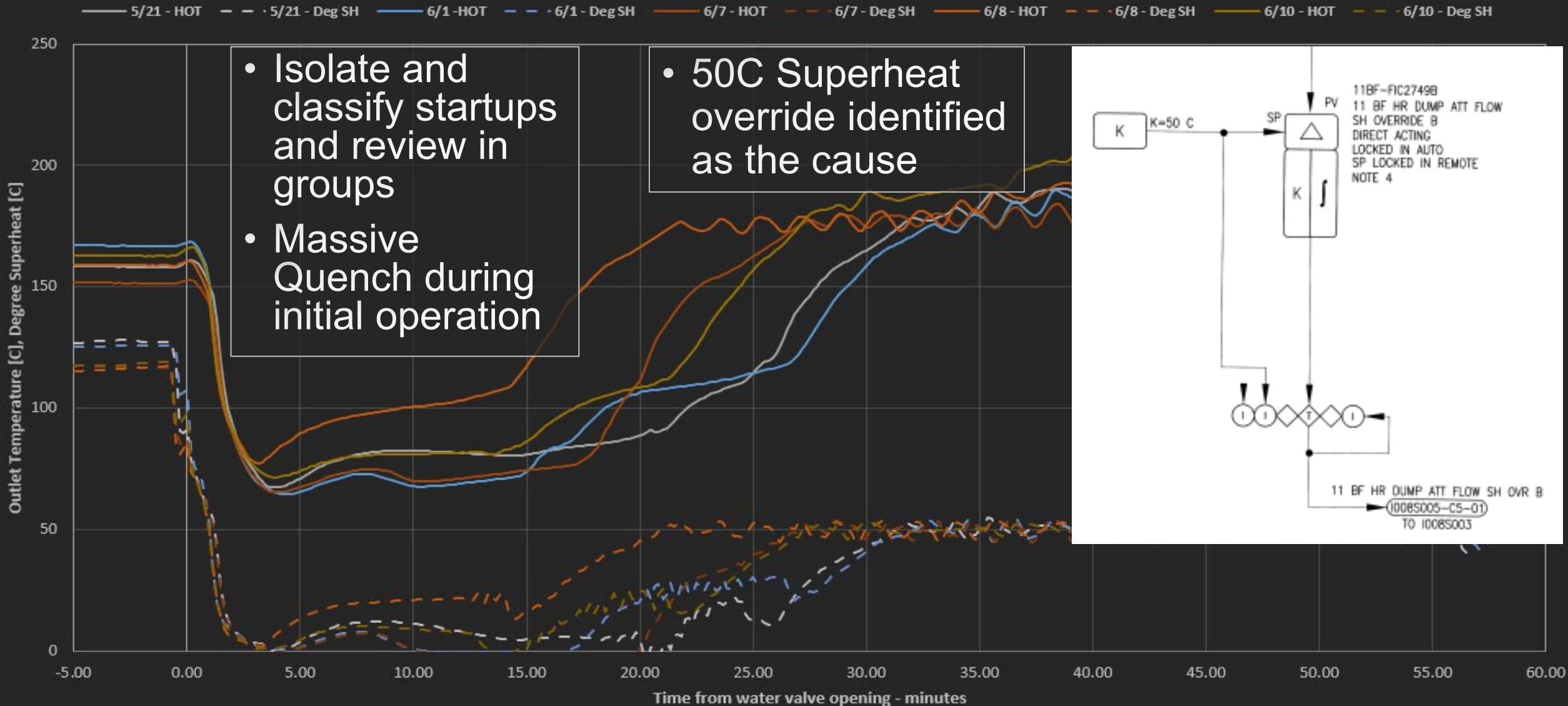
# Automation!

HRH Bypass Valve 1st Stage Desuperheater - Outlet Temperature Profiles



# Critical Finding #1

HRH Bypass Valve 1st Stage Desuperheater - Outlet Temperature Profiles

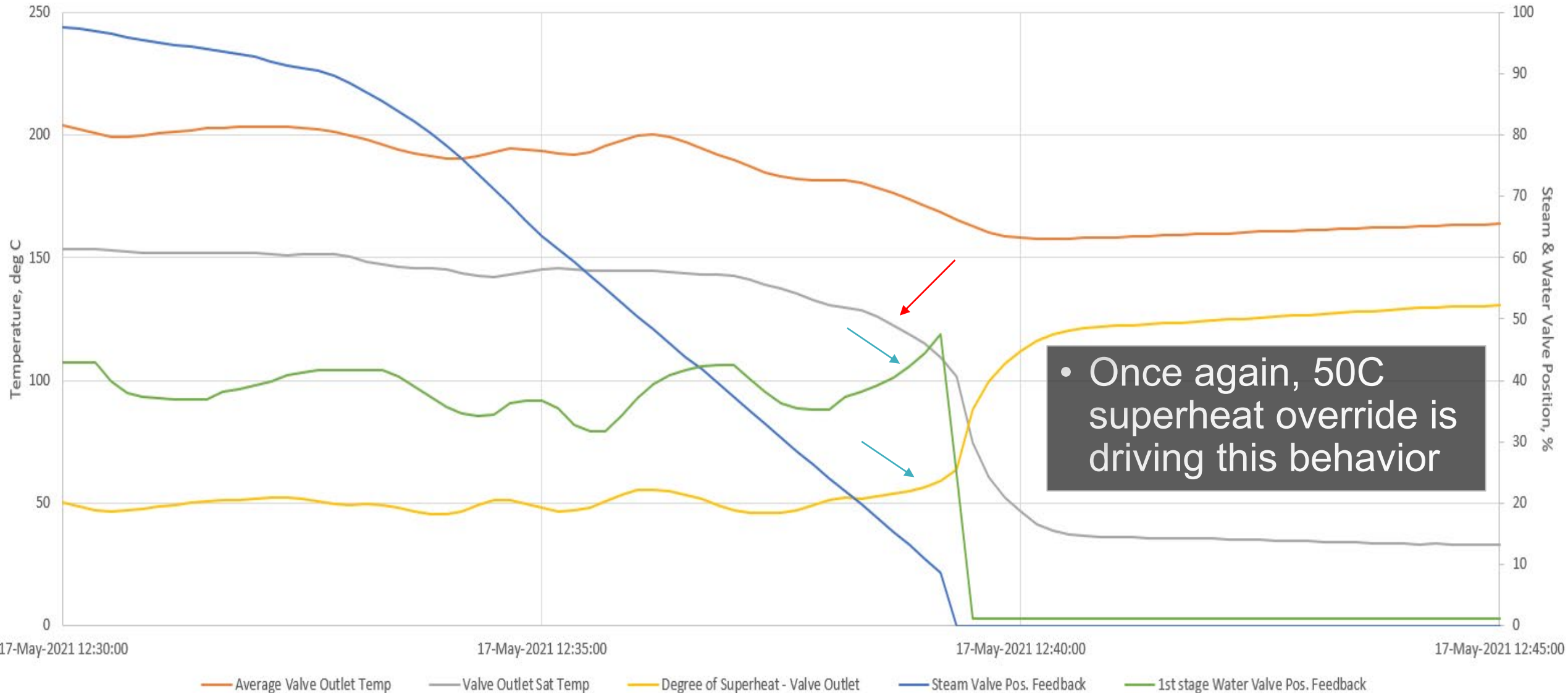






# Critical Finding #2

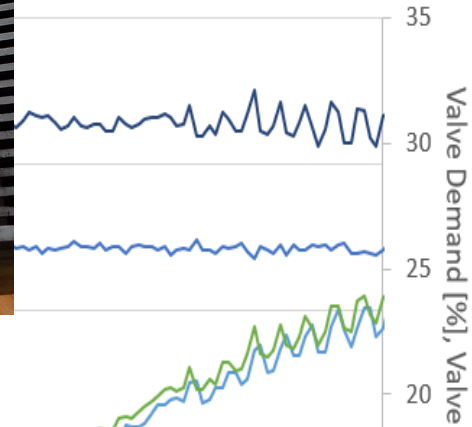
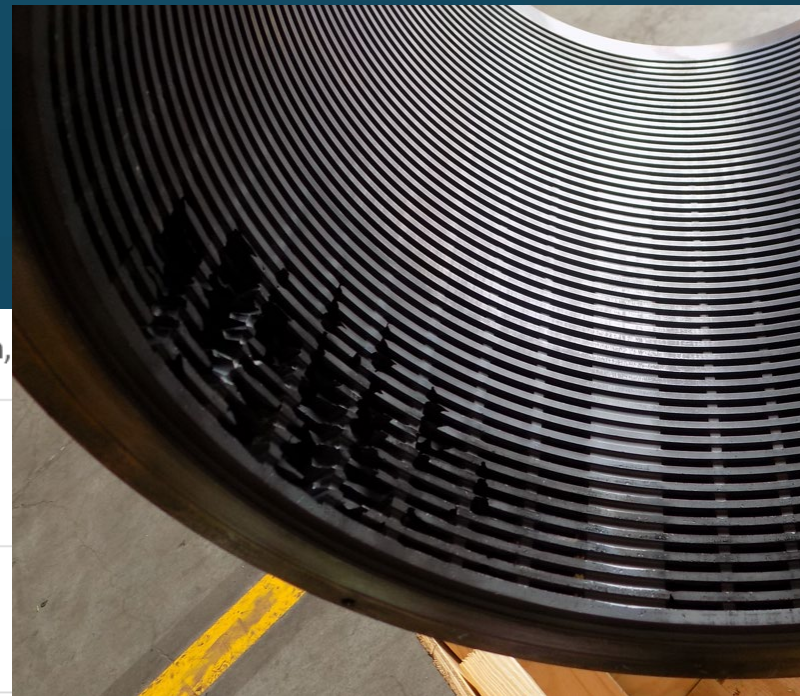
UNIT 11 - May 17th Startup



# Critical Finding #3

- All Cold and Warm starts had operation with <15C of superheat
- Average of 5 mins per start, Cold & Warm
- >100 PSI differential across valve with potential condensate

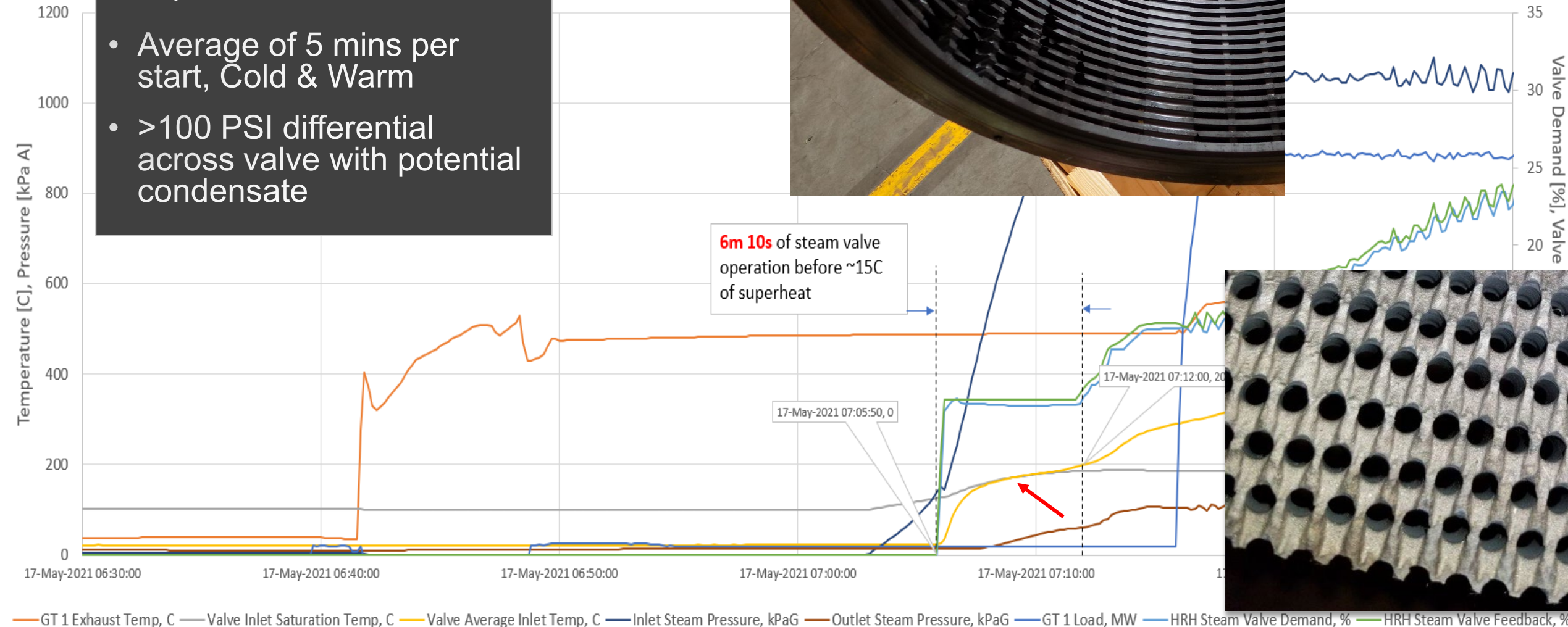
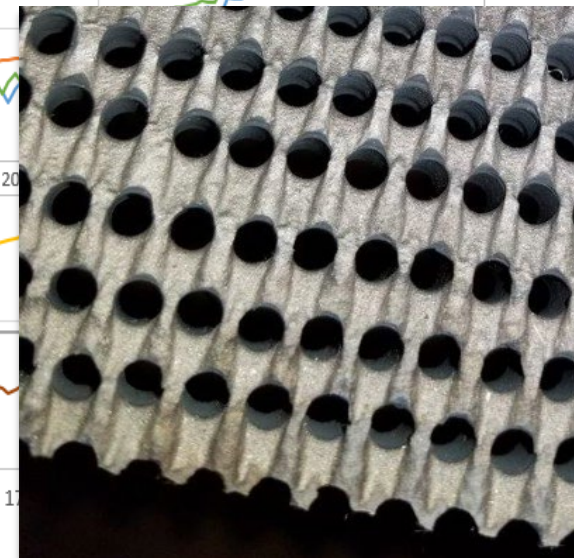
May 17th,



6m 10s of steam valve operation before ~15C of superheat

17-May-2021 07:05:50, 0

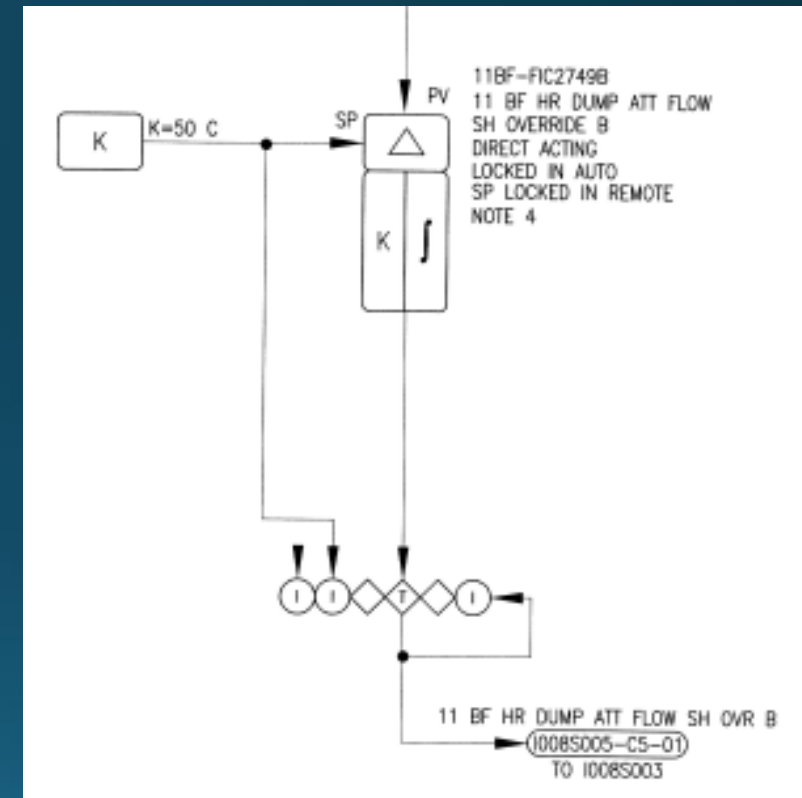
17-May-2021 07:12:00, 20





# Site Modifications

- Desuperheater hardware already upgraded
  - Final assembly being installed this week
- Third party process and controls specialist enlisted to modify control logic – IN PROCESS
  - Modify 50C superheat override
  - Modify bypass lift point during startup
- Evaluating hardware upgrades for wet-steam erosion, EroSolve Trim



# Summary

- Bypass valve cracking continues to plague Combined Cycle Plants
- Solution is multi-pronged
  - Hardware Upgrades
  - Data Review
  - Modify Operation
- Each system is Unique – Thorough review required to completely mitigate failure
- If you haven't inspected recently...  
**DO IT NOW!**

