



ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

UK oil refinery close to shutting down following labyrinth seal failure

Phillips 66, an oil refinery in the United Kingdom, processes crude oil supplied from the North Sea to eventually become gasoline, diesel and aviation fuels. When one weekend, a labyrinth seal failed and it was not possible to get a replacement, they called on AESSEAL® for help.

The affected pump was critical and its successful operation ensures that the refinery remains operational. Without the new seals (or any delays to the supply of the new seals) there would have been serious implications for the operation of the refinery.

With the threat that the refinery could be partially shut down without a replacement seal, AESSEAL® reacted to the problem with urgency. Quickly putting a project team together early on a Saturday morning, AESSEAL® was able to design a new bearing protector and within a short space of time had already machined, assembled and inspected two bearing protectors. The two seals were then delivered to site. The pump was successfully rebuilt and reinstated, removing the risk of a shutdown.

The customer was very happy and consequently a spare seal has been put in stock at site. AESSEAL® was also given an order for the Dual CAPI mechanical seals to replace the competitor seals. The Phillips 66 Workshop Manager said: "Please pass on our gratitude to your team for the manufacture and super-fast delivery."



'Same day turnaround for design, build and installation'

Industry: Oil & Gas
Product: Bearing Protection
Application: Pump



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