



CHALLENGE

Reduce OPEX associated with boiler inspection while improving safety.

SOLUTION

Use remotely operated drone to perform inspection.

RESULTS

Drone inspection has saved 1,916,000 ZAR by removing personnel from high altitudes and confined spaces.

Refinery Operator Reduces Cost of Visual Inspection for Boilers by 1,916,000 ZAR

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Customer sought a more cost-effective method of visual inspection

The boiler is a critical component for refineries. Timely inspection of these boilers prevents unwanted events, increases operational efficiency of the facility, and enhances safety. The traditional inspection method involves deploying air compressors and inspection technicians to confined spaces through rope access and can take about 12 hours per boiler, posing a safety risk for personnel.

The refinery operator started looking for alternative inspection methods to reduce OPEX while enhancing personnel safety.

STANLEY Inspection deployed a drone for boiler inspection

STANLEY Inspection deployed a remotely controlled drone to carry out the internal boiler inspection. The drone was equipped with a digital camera and was enabled with zooming and real-time video streaming capabilities. A technician observed the internal wall of the boiler in real-time and was able to zoom in on suspicious spots when needed. The recording was saved as a permanent digital file.

Customer saved 1,916,000 ZAR on boiler inspection services

The customer ultimately reduced their operational expenses by 1,916,000 ZAR by using STANLEY's drone technology. Inspection time was reduced from 12 hours to 1 hour, rope access operation was eliminated, and personnel was removed from confined spaces.

- Reduction of total shut-down time: 1,600,000 ZAR
- Elimination of rope access operation: 278,000 ZAR
- Elimination of compressors from confined spaces: 38,000 ZAR

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