

CHIMIA REPORT/COMPANY NEWS

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Technical Assistance to the Processing Industry

PRIMCO provides technical assistance to the chemical, petrochemical and oil & gas industries. As an outsourced technical support department, our team of expert engineers develops pragmatic and tailored solutions for plant operators (production, process, laboratory, maintenance & inspection teams) to troubleshoot, to optimize process performances and to improve asset integrity and reliability, while reducing operating costs.

While our service offering addresses the specific problems of our customers, we also offer standard integrated solutions.

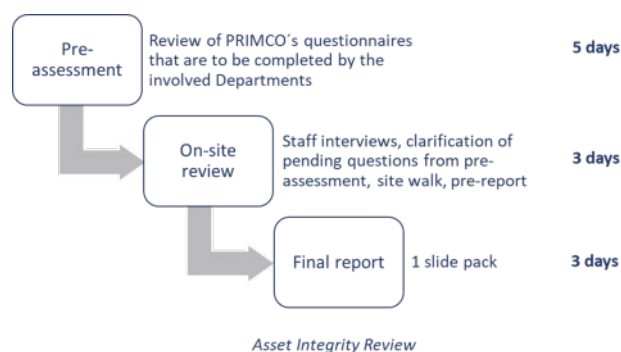
Process expertise at the heart of our approach

Each PRIMCO intervention starts with a detailed *Process Review* covering the entire production chain, from the delivery and acceptance of the raw feedstocks to the product(s) quality control and its associated analytical plan (sampling and analysis methods). This review is essential, either to troubleshoot or to improve performances (yields, energy efficiency, environmental impact) and reliability of equipment.

Asset integrity management

The three main consequences of a loss of integrity are: fire and/or explosion, toxic releases into the environment and equipment unavailability. All these potentially disastrous consequences can be avoided if adequate prevention programs are put in place. Our *Corrosion Studies* allow to identify the root cause of problems and recommend appropriate materials, methods of repair and monitoring to mitigate the risk.

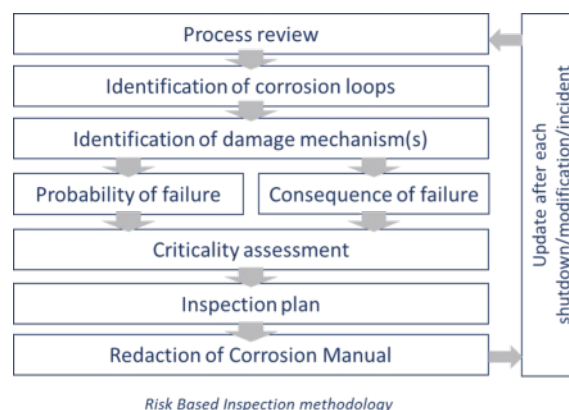
Our *Asset Integrity Review* is a comprehensive assessment of static equipment integrity which includes an audit of the inspection department and its interaction with the other operational departments of the plant. It takes about 3 to 4 weeks and is usually an effective way to get a better understanding of the customer's objectives and issues. We can then support the customer in the implementation of an action plan that we have jointly defined, or to go a step further with the implementation of an inspection program based on criticality (Risk Based Inspection) when/if required.



As pioneers in the development of the *Risk Based Inspection (RBI)* concept since the late 1980s, we support our customers in developing and implementing their own RBI program, either from scratch or by improving an existing system. The criticality assessment consists in breaking down the process into different corro-

sion loops and identifying for each of them, the most important damage mechanism(s) which will allow to evaluate the probability and the consequence of the failure for the equipment and the piping. The inspection plan (frequency, location and type of inspections) is adapted accordingly. This results in reliability improvement, maintenance and inspection costs reduction from 15 up to 40% depending on sites, and shortening unit shutdown duration. It also shows the following side benefits:

- Enhancement of internal collaboration among project team members from production, process, maintenance and inspection departments
- Development of a critical view on the obtained results
- Capitalization on the experience acquired over the years and ensure that this knowledge is shared and transmitted within the teams
- Strengthening credibility with the controlling authorities
- Extension of time between two turn arounds
- Increase of productivity as the result of improvement in plant reliability and availability



Rotating machineries

Our rotating machinery expertise covers pumps, centrifugal and reciprocating compressors, steam and gas turbines and air blowers. We can support project teams from the design stage for grass roots or revamp projects, or support operators in troubleshooting, monitoring and optimizing performances, improving energy efficiency, and optimizing maintenance plans and reliability. Our site-specific training program will allow machine specialists to improve their skills and beginners to better understand the key drivers of a reliable operation of the machines.

Keep internal standards and guidelines up to date

The implementation and application of industry best practices is a key element in improving equipment reliability. PRIMCO supports its customers in updating their internal standards and guidelines (insulation, painting, fire protection, etc.). And as the culture of reliability starts at the early stage of the design, we can also support our customers in the design and the construction phases of new equipment.

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