Design, Fabrication, Operational Effects, Inspection, Assessment, and Repair of Coke Drums and Peripheral Components in Delayed Coking Units

API TECHNICAL REPORT 934-G FIRST EDITION, APRIL 2016



Special Notes

API publications necessarily address problems of a general nature. With respect to particular circumstances, local, state, and federal laws and regulations should be reviewed.

Neither API nor any of API's employees, subcontractors, consultants, committees, or other assignees make any warranty or representation, either express or implied, with respect to the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of the information contained herein, or assume any liability or responsibility for any use, or the results of such use, of any information or process disclosed in this publication. Neither API nor any of API's employees, subcontractors, consultants, or other assignees represent that use of this publication would not infringe upon privately owned rights.

API publications may be used by anyone desiring to do so. Every effort has been made by the Institute to assure the accuracy and reliability of the data contained in them; however, the Institute makes no representation, warranty, or guarantee in connection with this publication and hereby expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility for loss or damage resulting from its use or for the violation of any authorities having jurisdiction with which this publication may conflict.

API publications are published to facilitate the broad availability of proven, sound engineering and operating practices. These publications are not intended to obviate the need for applying sound engineering judgment regarding when and where these publications should be utilized. The formulation and publication of API publications is not intended in any way to inhibit anyone from using any other practices.

Any manufacturer marking equipment or materials in conformance with the marking requirements of an API standard is solely responsible for complying with all the applicable requirements of that standard. API does not represent, warrant, or guarantee that such products do in fact conform to the applicable API standard.

Users of this Technical Report should not rely exclusively on the information contained in this document. Sound business, scientific, engineering, and safety judgment should be used in employing the information contained herein.

Foreword

Nothing contained in any API publication is to be construed as granting any right, by implication or otherwise, for the manufacture, sale, or use of any method, apparatus, or product covered by letters patent. Neither should anything contained in the publication be construed as insuring anyone against liability for infringement of letters patent.

Suggested revisions are invited and should be submitted to the Standards Department, API, 1220 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, standards@api.org.

Contents

		Page
1	Scope	1
2	Normative References	1
3 3.1 3.2	Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms	1
4 4.1 4.2 4.3	Background	3
5 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5 5.6 5.7 5.8	Design	18 19 22 23 23
6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4 6.5 6.6	Fabrication	34 34 35 35
7 7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5 7.6	Effects of Operating Practices on Drum Reliability. General Effect of Drum Cycle Time Quench Portion of the Operating Cycle Feed Injection Portion of the Operating Cycle. Drum Preheat. Manufacture of Fuel Grade Shot Coke Analyzing the Effect of Changes in Operating Practices on Drum Reliability.	40 40 40 41 41
8 8.1 8.2 8.3 8.4 8.5	Inspection and Monitoring General Inspection Considerations. Bulging Inspection Method Cracking Inspection Methods Frequency of Inspection. Use of Strain Gages and Shell Temperature Measurements to Monitor Drum Damage. Monitoring for Drum Bowing or Tilting.	43 43 44 46
	Condition Assessment	47

Contents

	F	Page
10.3	Minor Shell Replacements in Coke Drums	. 50
10.4	Major Replacements in Coke Drums	. 51
10.5	PWHT Versus Temper Bead Welding	. 51
11	Peripheral Equipment	. 52
11.1	General	. 52
11.2	Feed Nozzle Location/Details	. 53
11.3	Top and Bottom Unheading Design	. 53
11.4	Foundation Bolting	. 55
Bibli	iography	. 56
Figu	ires	
1	Typical Drum Heating and Cooling Cycle	4
2	Correlation Between Drum Shell Thickness and <i>D/t</i> Ratio and Time to Bulging	7
3	Overview of Coke Drum Thermal Cycling Damage	9
4	Early 1960s Photo Showing Typical Bulging Observed in Drums Used in Delayed Coking Units	
5	Circumferential Weld Crack Between the Nickel-based Restoration Weld and 12Cr Cladding	
6	Typical Cracking Observed at Skirt-to-Bottom Head Weld	
7	Keyhole Skirt-to-Bottom Head Weld Cracks	
8	Coke Drum Bottom Cone Cracks	-
9a	Internal Surface Bulge Cracks	
9b	External Surface Bulge Cracks	
10	Bowed Drum in a Delayed Coking Unit	
11	Corrosion of 12Cr Cladding in a Coke Drum Upper Section	
12	A Typical Sectional Plate Layout Used to Minimize Plate Strength and Thickness Mismatch	
13	Typical Skirt-to-Shell Fillet Weld Detail Used in Earlier Drum Construction	. 24
14	Skirt-to-Shell Detail of a Modified Fillet Weld with an Internal	
	Weld Crotch Radius to Reduce Stress at the Weld	
15	Forged Skirt-to-Shell Attachment Detail Removes Welds from High Stress Areas	. 25
16	Skirt-to-Shell Attachment Weld is Moved Up On the Shell From the Tangent Line to Remove the Weld From the High Stress Area	25
47	Typical Details for Coke Drum Skirt Keyholes	
17 18	General Details for the Insulation System on Drums in Coking Units	
19	Insulation Support System with Pins/studs Welded to the Shell, Heads, and Cones	
20	Insulation Support System with Clips Welded to the Shell With Segmented Rings Connected	. 23
20	to the Clips by Bolts	. 29
21	Insulation Support System with Clips Welded to the Shell Supporting Floating Rings	
22	Insulation Support System with Bird Cage Type Supports with a Floating Ring	
23	Typical "Hot Box" Insulation Details at the Shell-to-Skirt Connection	
24	Typical Tolerances Specified for Drums in Coking Units	
25	WRC Bulletin PWHT Heating and Insulating Details	
Tabl	es	
1	Factors Used in Evaluating the Change in a Coke Drum Operating Cycle Time	. 42
2	Typical Onstream and Downtime Inspection Techniques	
	and Frequencies for Coke Drums	. 45

Design, Fabrication, Operational Effects, Inspection, Assessment, and Repair of Coke Drums and Peripheral Components in Delayed Coking Units

1 Scope

This technical report includes information and guidance on the practices used by industry practitioners on the design, fabrication, operation, inspection, assessment and repair of coke drums and peripheral components in delayed coking units. The guidance is general and does not reflect specific details associated with a design offered by licensors of delayed coking technology, or inspection tools, operating devices/components, repairs techniques, and/or engineering assessments offered by contractors. For details associated with the design offered by a licensor or services provided by contractors, the licensor or contractor should be consulted for guidance and recommendations for their design details and operating guidance. This document is a technical report and as such, provides generally used practices in industry and is not an API Recommended Practice for coke drums in delayed coking units.

2 Normative References

No other document is identified as indispensable or required for the application of this technical report. A list of documents associated with API 934-G are included in the bibliography.

3 Terms, Definitions, and Acronyms

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply.

3.1 Terms and Definitions

For the purpose of this technical report, the following definitions apply.

3.1.1

ASME Code

ASME *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code*, Section II, Parts A though D, Section V, Section VIII, Division 1 and Division 2, and Section IX, including applicable addenda and Code Cases.

3.1.2

final PWHT

The last post weld heat treatment (PWHT) after fabrication of the vessel and prior to placing the vessel in service.

3.1.3

fracture ductility

The term used to define the limiting ductility before fracture occurs as a result of low cycle fatigue as modeled using the Coffin-Manson equation. It is typically defined as follows:

fracture ductility = ln(100/(100 - RA))

where

RA is reduction in area during a tensile test.