



APPLICATION STORY

Inspectahire relies on the FLIR GFx320 Optical Gas Imaging camera for maintenance inspections and hydrocarbon leak detection in the offshore oil and gas industry



The FLIR GFx320 Optical Gas Imaging (OGI) camera

Established in 1981, Inspectahire is a leading international supplier of specialist remote visual inspection technology and solutions to companies in many industries around the world. Supported by the most advanced technologies around, Inspectahire helps its customers manage their safety, profitability and environmental impact of their assets. When the company is tasked with the detection of fugitive hydrocarbon emissions, FLIR's GFx320 Optical Gas Imaging (OGI) camera is their preferred technology to use.

Inspectahire offers equipment rental, contracting and project engineering services supported by a team of skilled engineers who have a wealth of inspection knowledge and experience. Their expertise extends to a wide range of equipment and assets, both onshore and offshore, and in all environments – including harsh and hazardous. All Inspectahire's inspection solutions are carried out in accordance with ISO 9001 best practices.

OIL & GAS INDUSTRY

Having worked for three decades in the Oil & Gas industry, both in the North Sea and worldwide, Inspectahire has built up a strong expertise in this sector. Safety and cost are two of the biggest concerns in the offshore oil and gas industry today. Inspectahire aims to tackle those challenges by using the best technologies available.

"The offshore oil and gas industry are proactive in their search for the best technologies for detecting emissions that may affect the safety, profitability and environmental impact of their assets," comments Cailean Forrester, Managing Director of Inspectahire. "At Inspectahire we strive to identify and offer the best available technological solutions for all remote inspection scenarios."

SAFETY & ECONOMY

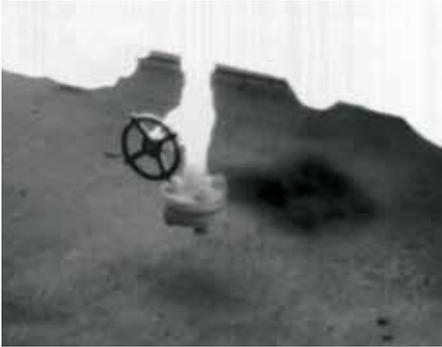
Dangerous gas leaks are a concern to every oil and gas production plant. Not only do some of the gases harm the environment, but the leaks also cost companies substantial amounts of money. "The company has been using optical gas imaging cameras for a very long time to detect dangerous gas leaks," comments Cailean Forrester "Thanks to optical gas imaging cameras, we can easily detect gases in difficult to reach or hazardous locations. And we can help companies prevent costly downtime of their production plant."



Inspectahire has been using optical gas imaging cameras for a long time to detect dangerous gas leaks.



Thanks to optical gas imaging cameras, Inspectahire can easily detect gases in difficult to reach or hazardous locations.



With the GFx320 camera, you can keep a safe distance and still detect gas leaks with great precision.

CONTACT MEASUREMENT TECHNOLOGIES VS. OPTICAL GAS IMAGING

"We have been using certain contact measurement tools like laser detectors or leaks sniffers," says Cailean Forrester. "But the problem is that you have to go right up to the object, which is not always safe or even possible. In other words, this approach is limited and not very precise. With an optical gas imaging camera like the GFx320 however, you can keep a safe distance and still detect gas leaks with great precision."

SAFETY ZONE 2 COMPLIANT

The Inspectahire team is using the GFx320 for maintenance inspections and hydrocarbon detection jobs, in hydrocarbon production plants or for the inspection of any material that uses hydrocarbon as a fuel. The GFx320 camera is able to scan a broader area much more rapidly and monitor areas that are difficult to reach with contact measurement tools.



Small leaks can become big ones, that is why it is important to be able to detect them in an early stage.

GFx320 Optical Gas Imaging (OGI) camera

The GFx320 optical gas imaging camera has been tuned to visualize more than 400 fugitive emissions that are impossible to see with the human eye. With the potential to detect gases leaking at just 0.4 g/hr, the GFx320 meets sensitivity standards defined in the US EPA's OOOOa methane rule. Unique to FLIR is the company's High Sensitivity Mode (HSM), which employs proprietary video processing techniques, for a 5x increase in leak detectability.

Hazardous-Location Certified

The GFx320's third-party safety certification allows inspectors to work with confidence, knowing that once they scan a hazardous area and deem it safe, they can enter with the camera in hand. The GFx320 streamlines access for inspectors, potentially eliminating the need for hot work permits in Zone 2/Class I, Div II areas, depending upon company protocols.



"If a hydrocarbon leak is there, you will certainly see it with the GFx320 camera, even if it is a small one," comments Cailean Forrester. "Small leaks can become big ones, that is why it is important to be able to detect them in an early stage. With the GFx320, we are sure of an accurate and reliable detection."

In addition, the GFx320 greatly improves operator safety, because it allows users to detect emissions at a safe distance and it enables them access Zone 2/Class I, Div II areas, potentially eliminating the need for hot work permits.

A zone 2 area is any place where an explosive atmosphere may occur, due to flammable gases or vapor, in quantities that require people to take special safety precautions. A zone 2 area is defined as such, that the explosive gas atmosphere is not likely to occur in normal operation and, if it occurs, will only exist for a short time.

For more information about thermal imaging cameras or about this application, please visit:

www.flir.eu/OGI

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