Out with the new, in with the old

Lessons learned during the rehabilitation of a 350 mgd pump station



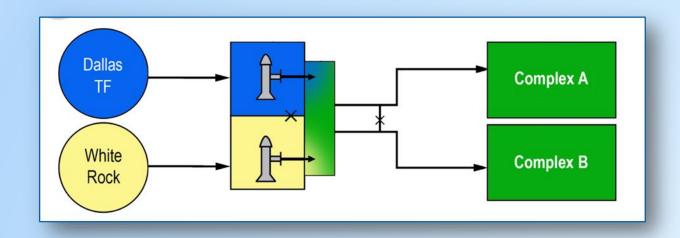
WATER
OUR FOCUS
OUR BUSINESS
OUR PASSION

Caro Sengineers...Working Wonders With Water®

Activated Sludge Influent Pump Station



All plant flow treated passes through ASIPS, making it one of the most critical facilities at the plant





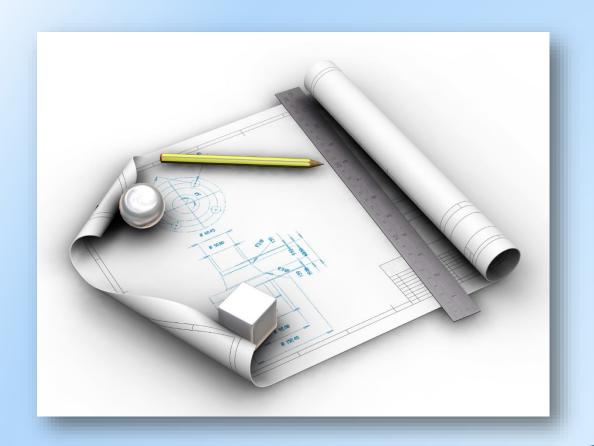
Aged pumps, hydraulic restrictions, and air entrainment reduced reliability





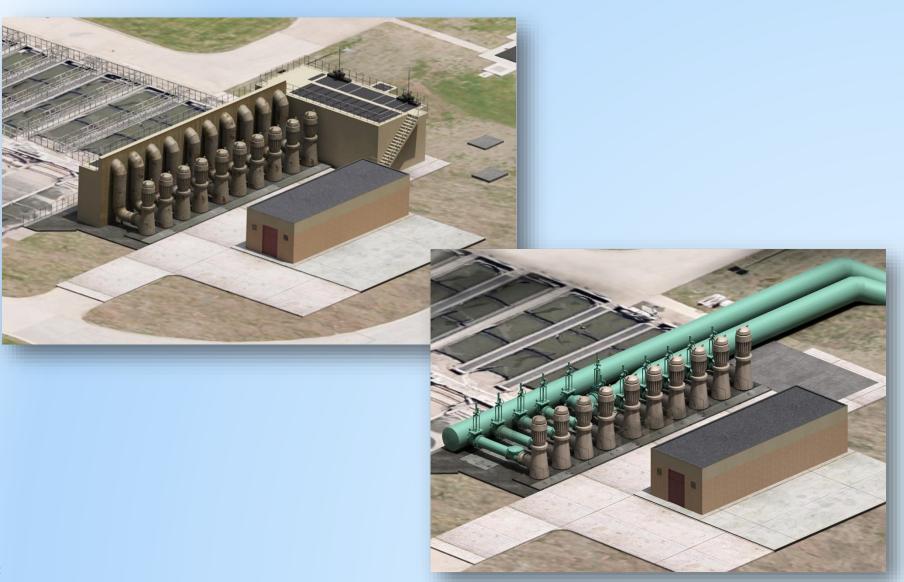






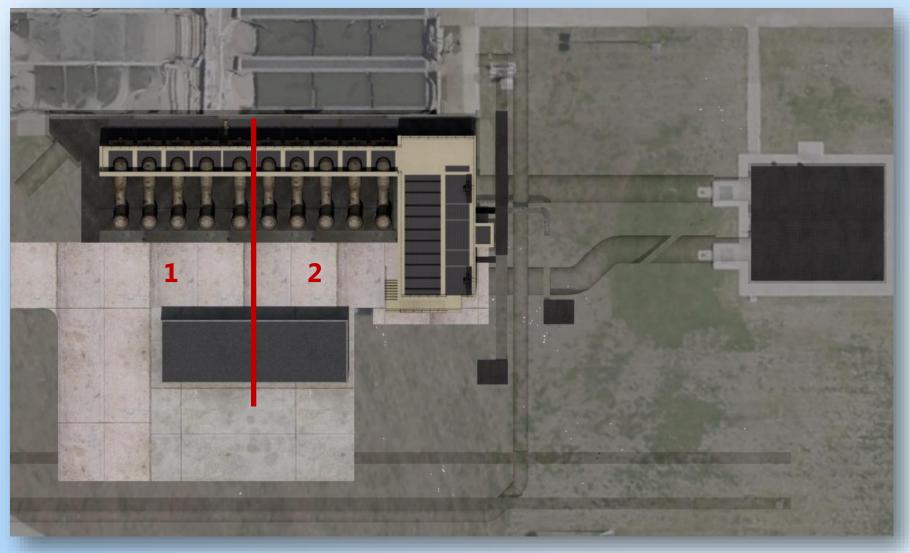
The Plan...

Replace the entire pump station in place



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Construction sequence to work on half of the pump station at a time



Phase I – Demo pumps 1-5 (May 2016)



Phase II – Witness test pump and VFD 1 (December 2016)



Phase III – Install header and 5 pumps (7-day test completed February 10, 2017)



Phase IV – Demo remaining existing (beginning February 13, 2017)





Phase V – Witness test pump 7 and VFD (February 23, 2017)

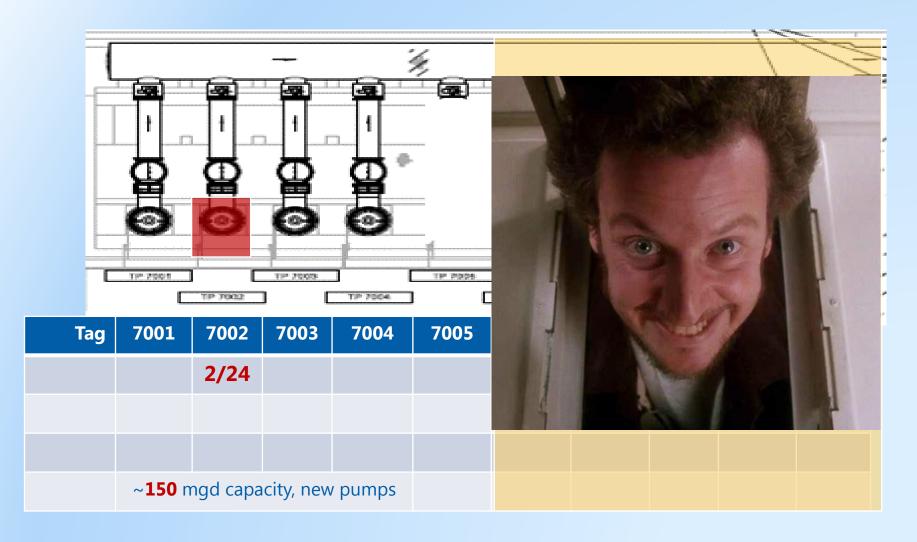






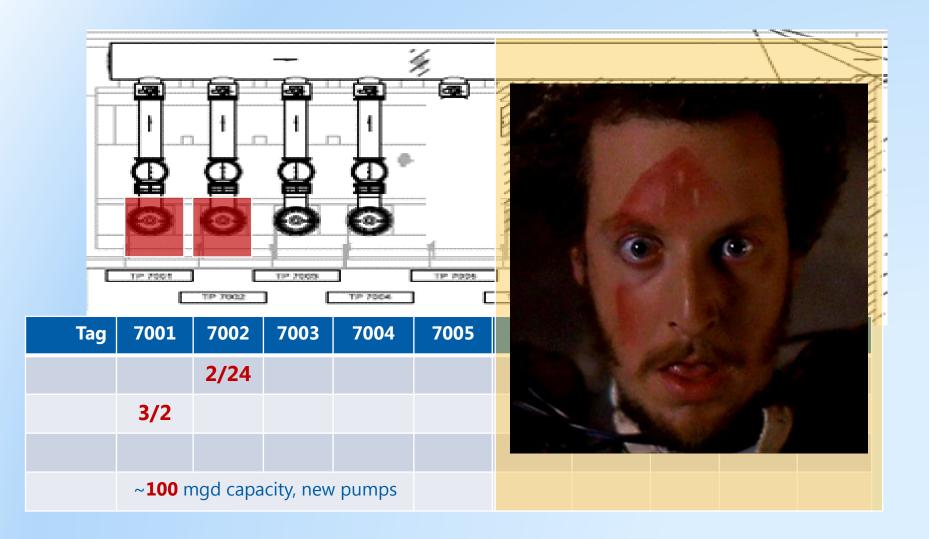
Things go wrong...

Couplings begin to fail February 24



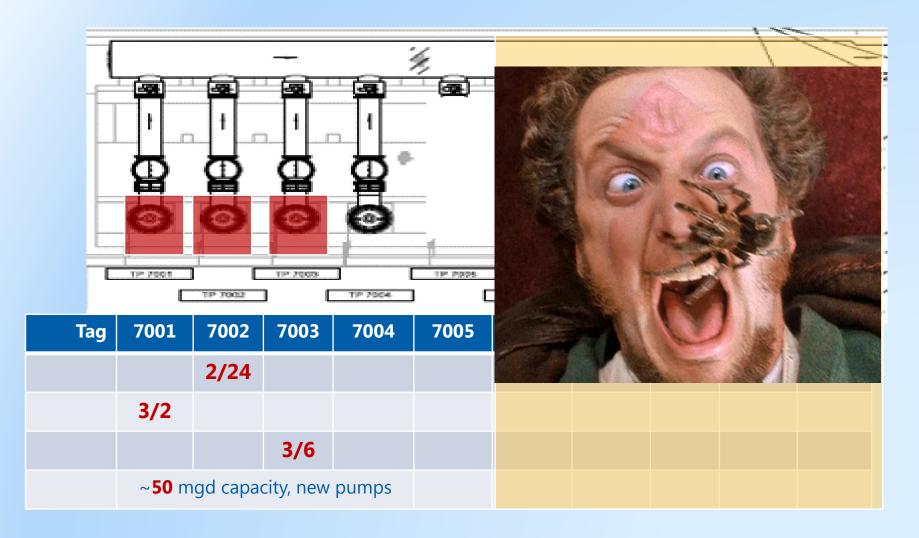


...and continue...



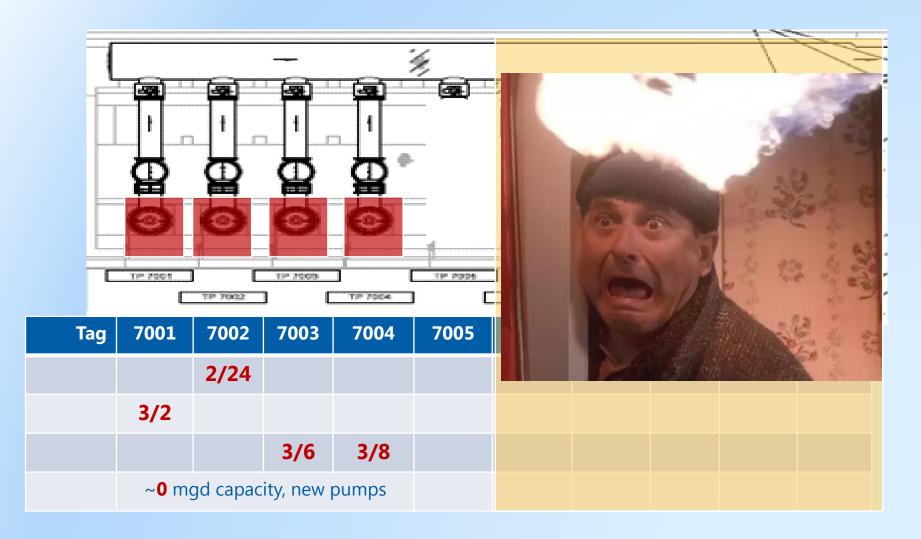


...and again...





...until 4 new pumps fail in 2 weeks







Panic time!

Out with the new, in with the old!

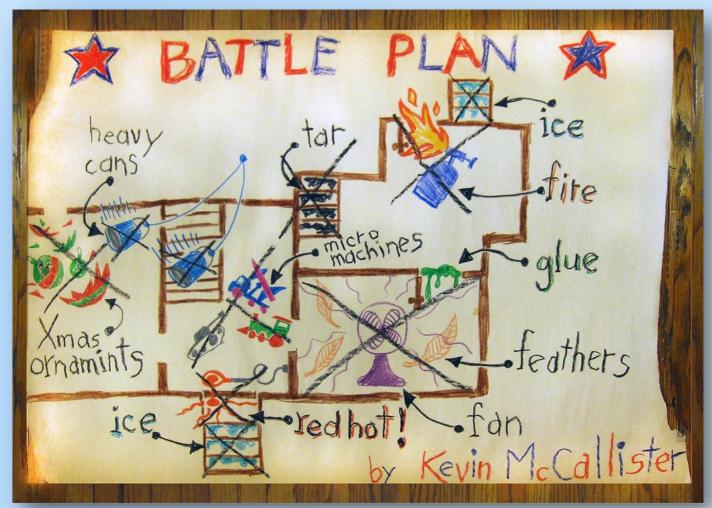




5 original pumps were reinstalled within 20 days after the first failure



All hands on deck to keep the plant in service long enough to find a solution



Engineer reviews plans and specs



Root cause analysis found coupling design and manufacturing problems



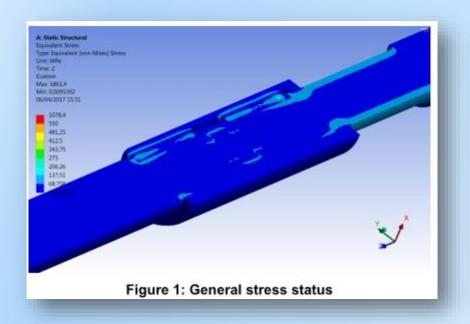
Broken shaft coupling sleeve (typical)

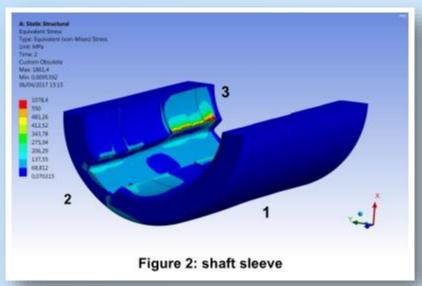


Broken shaft coupling sleeves, typical break patterns



A new coupling design was completed using finite element analysis







New couplings on the way



All pumps had been retrofitted and reinstalled by July 2017





How you respond to a problem makes the difference

- Murphy's law is real
- Keeping the old equipment was a key decision
- Owner understanding and participation is critical
- Blame assignment should not be the priority when problems arise
- Relationships and trust across the board were retained and improved



This story has a happy ending!





Thank you!