#### A Fresh Look at 3 Drum Cokers



Coking Safety & Reliability Seminar Moody Gardens Galveston, TX May 1 - 4, 2012

# FLUOR

#### Presented by:

Kenneth Kirkpatrick (Kenneth.Kirkpatrick@Fluor.com) Barry Millet (Barry.Millet@Fluor.com)

#### Co Authors:

George Miller (George.Miller@Fluor.com) Les Antalffy (Les.P.Antalffy@Fluor.com) Paul McDade (Paul.McDade@Fluor.com)

#### Outline

- Introduction
  - Common terms & historical trends
- Design Advantages for Adding A 3<sup>rd</sup> Coke Drum
  - 1. Cycle Advantages
  - 2. Operation Advantages
  - 3. Fatigue Advantage
- Economical Advantages for Adding A 3<sup>rd</sup> Coke Drum

2

- New Coker unit

**FLUOR** 

- Existing Coker unit
- Summary & Conclusions

## **Common Terms**



Why do Coke Drums fail ?

Severe Cyclic Thermal Conditions due to Minimal Preheat Temperature Aggressive Heat Up Rate Aggressive Quench Rate

4





## What do we do to Stop Failures ?

- Modify Operations
  - Increase preheat temp
  - Control cool down
  - Increase cycle time
- Improve Equipment
  - Innovation with new geometry and designs
  - Better materials
  - Manufacturing controls
  - Modify inlet flow conditions
- Most efforts are focused on trying to improve equipment because when the operations are modified we slow down the process, lose throughput and profits !

5

## **FLUOR**<sub>®</sub>

## Why Install A 3<sup>rd</sup> Drum ?

- Higher than expected maintenance costs
- Need shorter drum cycles or more throughput
- Severe thermal cycles with a 2 drum unit Reduce thermal impact
- Difficulty producing a design for the full design life
- Lower cost and improved reliability







## **Historical Data & Trends**



\$ 9.96 9.8

**♦**9.2

First Advantage Drum Cycle



 ♦ 5.35

**FLUOR** 

Year





### 3 Drum Coker Cycle Advantage



- 2 Drum System
  - 30 Year Life
  - ~15 hr Cycle
  - 9,000 Cycles Per Drum
  - 18,000 Cycles Per Unit
  - (9,000 \* 2 Drums)





3 Drum System

13

- 30 Year Life
- ~15 hr Cycle
- 18,000 Total Unit Cycles
- 6,000 Cycles Per Drum (18,000 / 3 Drums)
- 1.5 X Life Advantage for 3 Drums (9,000 / 6,000)
  - Each drum experiences 1/3 less cycles over a 30 year period







#### 3 Drum Coker Operations Advantage

- With a 3 drum coker there is twice the amount of time between coking to perform the following
  - Quench, Dehead, Cut, Rehead, Steam Test & Preheat
- Possible to block in 1 drum for a short period of time to perform
  - Routine maintenance
  - Drum inspection and repair
  - Deheading replacement and repair
  - Severely damaged drum possible to operate on 2 drums until next turn around

# **FLUOR**.









#### 3 Drum Coker Fatigue Advantage – Example 2

 9 Cases are evaluated using the typical skirt to shell juncture



### 3 Drum Coker Fatigue Advantage – Example 2

- Increasing the preheat has a small effect on the stress range since most stress in this region is due to coke being introduced into the vessel
- Reducing the quench rate has a large effect on the stress range since the reversal is directly affected



#### 3 Drum Coker Fatigue Advantage – Example 2



Stress Range = Heatup Stress - Quench Stress
N1 = Number of Cycles for Initial Quench Rate
N2 = Number of Cycles for Target Quench Rate
Cycle Ratio = N2 / N1
Total Est Life Extension = 1.5 * Cycle Ratio

Existing	Target	Cycles		Cycle	Drum	Total Est	Existing	Est Life
Rate	Rate	N1	N2	Ratio	Factor	Life Extension	Life (yr)	(yr)
10	6	11416	16633	1.46	1.5	2.19	10.0	21.85
15	6	7564	16633	2.20	1.5	3.30	10.0	32.98
20	6	5271	16633	3.16	1.5	4.73	10.0	47.33
25	6	3821	16633	4.35	1.5	6.53	10.0	65.29
30	6	2859	16633	5.82	1.5	8.73	10.0	87.26
35	6	2196	16633	7.58	1.5	11.36	10.0	113.63
40	6	1723	16633	9.65	1.5	14.48	10.0	144.80



#### 3 Drum Coker Design Advantage Summary



Economical Advantages for Adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> Coke Drum









### 3 Drum Coker Economics Advantages

#### New Installation



### 3 Drum Coker Economics Advantages



#### 3 Drum Coker Economics Advantages – Summary

#### Initial Investment VS. Long Term Savings

	Modification to Existing Unit	New Unit
Initial Investment	-\$90MM	-\$80MM
Long term savings	+18MM	+28MM
1 Drum Replacement		
Long term savings	+\$127MM	+\$137MM
2 Drum Replacement		

#### Once all factors are considered both cases can be shown to provide long term savings

37

**FLUOR**<sub>®</sub>

#### 3 Drum Coker Summary & Conclusions

- 3 Drum Coker Advantages
  - Reduce the need to spend additional money on improved equipment designs
  - Ability to increase throughput without severely impacting the thermal cycle
  - More time between drum cycles for operations
  - Reduced maintenance costs and drum replacements
  - Ability to block in 1 drum for maintenance or repairs
  - Substantial fatigue live advantage by adding 1 drum to the cycle and reducing the thermal impact
  - Over the life of the unit the 3<sup>rd</sup> drum will pay for itself due to reduced maintenance costs and drum replacements
  - Improved reliability

# **FLUOR**<sub>®</sub>

### A Fresh Look at 3 Drum Cokers



Coking Safety & Reliability Seminar Moody Gardens Galveston, TX May 1 - 4, 2012

# FLUOR.

#### Presented by:

Kenneth Kirkpatrick (Kenneth.Kirkpatrick@Fluor.com) Barry Millet (Barry.Millet@Fluor.com)

#### Co Authors:

George Miller (George.Miller@Fluor.com) Les Antalffy (Les.P.Antalffy@Fluor.com) Paul McDade (Paul.McDade@Fluor.com)