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Bypassing trips during planned startup/shutdown or for maintenance

Karthikeyan Balan

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When a chemical plant is started up or shutdown (planned) some trips are required to be bypassed. In the older generation plants, a process override switch is given for this purpose. Similarly, if a trip switch needs maintenance, then a maintenance override switch is provided. I want to know what is the current practice for such situations. Thanks.

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Mojtaba Habibi

Process Engineer at Wood Group

Dear Karthikeyan Balan,

In current upstream oil production project we implemented the same concept at ICSS (Integrated Control and Shutdown System) package but with more degree of flexibility as described below..

1. The matrix panel (ESD console) design for MOS (Maintenance Over-Ride Switch) involves dedicated MOS key switches for each area such as light crude trains, heavy crude train, stripped gas compressor station, sales gas copressor station, produced water treatment package, utilities and etc. This modification is made based on comments we have received from operation team asking for more flexibility.

2. ICSS software has the capability for area wise OOS (operating over ride switch) such that once OOS enabled via matrix panel, all relevant trips for specific area which is subjected to start-up will be over-riden as a group. This provides more flexibility, minimize the probability of operator mistake and improve the required time to do such activity.

3 For instruments with 2oo3 voting the logic should be modified once MOS is enabled for each of the instruments.

Best, Mojtaba

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