Correcting Troubled Air Pipe Flows

The following lists identify reasons why the MF Total, the sum of the individual manifold transducer readings on a pipe, does not equal the SF (source flow) reading at the pipe panel. The pipe-related problems can be corrected by using Flow Finders to purify the air pipe (see *Maintenance & Repair, Air Pipe Purification* in the on-line *Theory & Practice Manual*). Data-related problems can be resolved by verifying the equipment in the field and updating the PressureMAP database to reflect actual field conditions.

Pipe-Related Problems

1. There is a sizable leak or leaks in the air pipe.

2. A manifold has been installed on the pipe but not included in the database. This "Ghost Manifold" is an unrecorded air source that increases air flow at the pipe panel.

3. A "Cheater Hose" or "Buffer Hose" has been installed between the air pipe and a cable. This unidentified, unrecorded air source adds to the air flow discrepancy.

4. There is an unknown pipe "T" on the route, and the side leg feeds a manifold (another undocumented air source).

Data-Related Problems

1. Some of the manifolds (not all) may be installed on another pipe. This is the result of pipes being cut in the field and put back together without being properly identified. The result is that the database either does not get updated or, possibly, a data entry error has occurred.

2. Air pipes have been transposed and the SF device is reading the wrong pipe.

3. The flow range of a transducer is entered incorrectly in the database. This error can pertain to the SF device and/or one or more of the MF devices.

4. A flow transducer installed either at the pipe panel or in the field is out of calibration.

Specific questions regarding the air pipe purification process or PressureMAP data discrepancies can be answered by calling System Studies Incorporated at (800) 247-8255 from 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday.