

CLOSE INTERVAL SURVEY

Differences that matter

Time is of the essence – When meeting compliance deadlines, it is critical to determine if the pipeline is protected as quickly as possible to allow time to remediate the CP system, or potentially the pipeline itself. Smaller contractors may lack the capacity to complete large-scale CIS projects quickly or offer remediation capabilities.

Corrpro, an Aegion company, is the nation's largest provider of close interval surveys and is suited to complete both large-scale projects and those on tight deadlines with minimal disruption. Approximately 30 three-person CIS crews operate from 11 offices throughout the U.S., and can survey over 150 miles of pipeline per day. By leveraging our crews to meet your needs, we can deliver rapid turnaround on projects totaling hundreds or even thousands of miles of pipeline. Our ability to mobilize resources quickly can be especially helpful in Canada and other northern climates, where cold weather and frozen ground conditions limits the inspection season. In addition, our in-house team of data processors and analysts are equipped with customized software tools to review and analyze data collected each day and issue final reports as quickly as possible. Daily review, analysis and acceptance of data collected reduces CP system downtime due to potential rework at the end of the CIS project. It also provides you with immediate feedback, providing more time for remediation.

A picture tells a more complete story. As you consider your CIS options, think about the finished product your CIS contractor will deliver. Do you want a spreadsheet with tables of voltage readings and GPS coordinates that suggest areas of concern? Or would you prefer a map that visualizes the locations of pipeline segments that may be out of specification? Would you choose a contractor that delivers raw data that you must later manually input into your GIS? Or would it be easier if it were provided in a format you can instantly upload to your system?

When you choose Aegion's Asset Integrity Portal along with the FieldLine™ application, your survey results will be provided to you from a secure website where you can download reports and data that can be instantly uploaded to your GIS system. This makes it easy to visualize areas of concern. When multiple surveys are performed on a pipeline, they can be layered onto the map as well, giving you a complete picture of a pipeline's condition. This data can also be almost instantaneously aligned with other inspection data compared to 3 to 4 hours per mile in a manual process. This reduces preparation time for regulatory compliance audits and allows you to spend your valuable time and resources remediating areas of concern.



Smarter is better – An ordinary CIS delivers a snapshot in time. But it can't peer into the future and tell you if a pipeline corrosion problem is likely to get worse.

Our Asset Integrity Portal makes it possible to compare survey results from one survey to the next. Our ability to provide trend analysis will alert you to potential problems before they escalate. Detailed analysis can help inform your decision-making process.

Each year, we perform more than 20,000 miles of close interval surveys for major energy clients throughout North America. Our advanced survey techniques also enable us to locate AC and/or DC interference which is known to accelerate corrosion on pipelines.

Safer is better - Our rigorous safety program is consistently achieving superior industry results. This is due to our emphasis on leading indicators, helping to prevent safety issues before they occur, as well as a company-wide focus on giving front-line supervisors the authority and tools they need to operate a safe jobsite. This translates into some of the best safety performance statistics in the industry.

Aegion's Asset Integrity Portal and CIS are just two of many threat assessment services available in our pipeline integrity management portfolio. With decades of experience and thousands of successful projects, we have the expertise to assist you with virtually any corrosion analysis challenge you might face. Our goal is to help you extend the useful life of your pipeline infrastructure while complying with regulations.

CLOSE INTERVAL SURVEY

Corrosion prevention for your underground pipeline investment



866.CORRPRO United States
800.661.8390 Canada
44.1642.614106 Europe
966.3.802.7009 Middle East

www.corrpro.com



INVEST CLOSE INTERVAL SURVEY DOLLARS WISELY

Your pipeline system is the heart of your business and keeping it free from shutdowns and high maintenance costs will increase profitability, safety of your people, assets and their surroundings, as well as help secure your company's future.

Regulations require assessing the integrity of transmission pipeline systems at least every seven years – five, if the pipeline carries a hazardous liquid. The question is, are you getting the most value for your investment?

Pipeline corrosion is like a parasite that attacks a pipeline. If detected early – or even prevented from invading pipelines altogether – you will have a healthier system with lower maintenance costs and fewer needs to excavate and repair damaged pipe.

A close interval survey (CIS) is a preventive action that can help prevent this corrosion before it starts. CIS is one part of a suite of tools used to identify conditions that cause corrosion, allowing you to assess the effectiveness of the cathodic protection (CP) system protecting your pipeline – ensuring it is operating to NACE SP0169 specified standards.

Take proactive measures to prevent corrosion before it starts.

Once corrosion is detected in a pipeline, extensive (and costly) remediation programs must be implemented to ensure ongoing safety of your assets, employees, neighbors and the environment. These may include costly replacement or repair of corroded sections of pipeline, a reduction in maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) and throughput or an increase in required assessments of your pipeline.

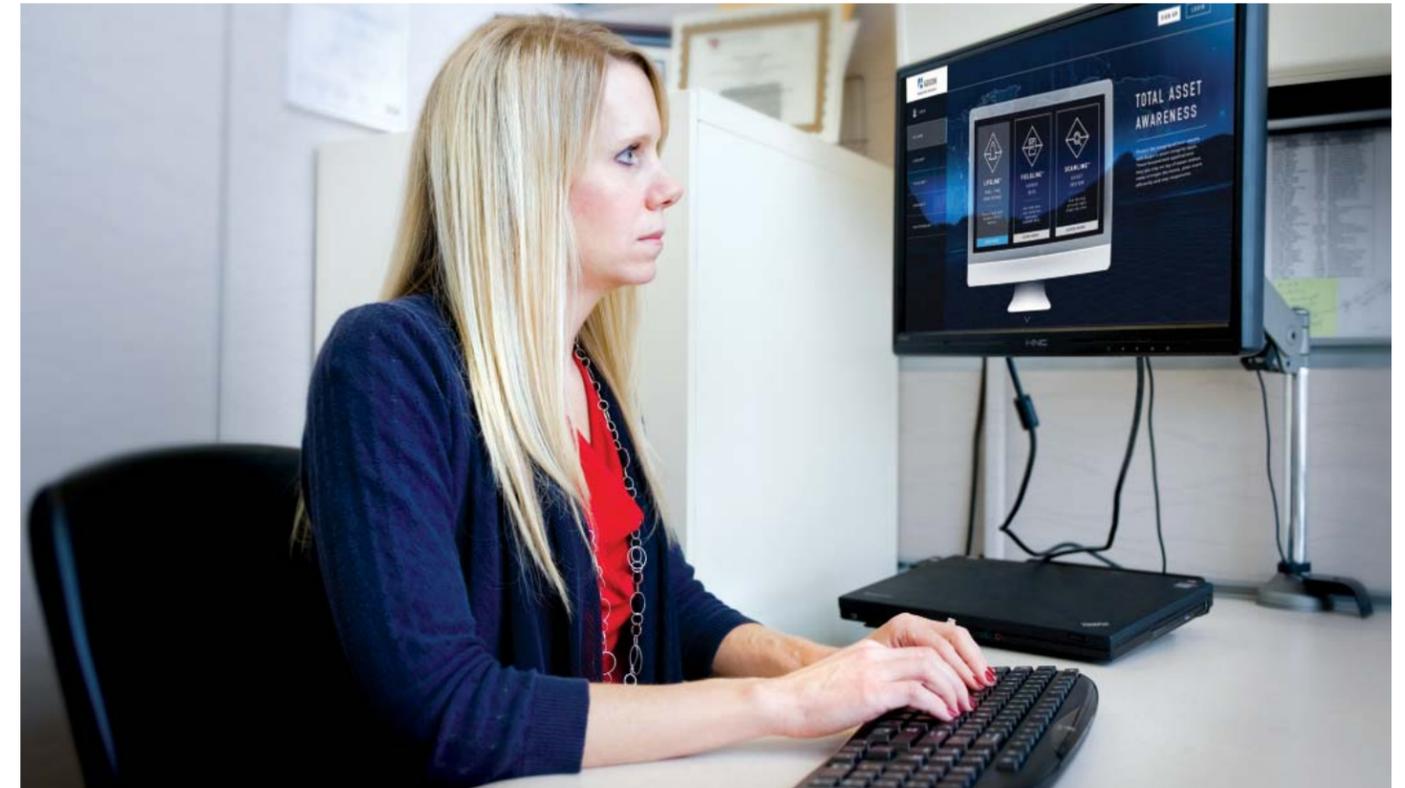
Pipeline operators estimate that the total cost of maintenance of CP systems can be up as much as 15 times lower compared to monitoring and repairing corrosion. A proactive, preventive close interval survey program – including those that conduct annual pipeline surveys – can be a fraction of the cost of a program to survey and remediate corroded pipe.



A QUESTION OF FREQUENCY

Regulations prescribe how often pipeline operators must perform an assessment of their transmission pipelines. In the U.S., it is a minimum of every seven years for transmission lines and every five years if the pipe carries hazardous liquids.

Many operators, however, perform CIS assessments more frequently so they can take action to prevent corrosion. Once corrosion is detected, costly repairs or a reduction in MAOP is required which leads to reduced throughput and lower revenue for operators.



Aegion's Asset Integrity Portal allows engineers to access survey results and other GIS data.

Are all close interval surveys created equal?

On the surface, close interval surveys provided by all providers might seem similar. A CIS involves establishing an electrical connection to the pipeline by means of a trailing coated copper wire. The pipe-to-soil potential is measured with a set of electrodes positioned directly over the pipeline at 2.5-ft intervals. With an interrupted CIS, all CP current has to be interrupted in order to obtain an IR free potential. This is achieved by installing GPS synchronized current interrupters at all known current sources. A pipeline technician then walks the length of the pipeline to record the measurements.

When they're finished, the survey findings indicate whether or not the CP system installed is doing its job in protecting your pipeline. In some cases, these surveys can also pinpoint the location of stray AC/DC current that may be interfering with the CP system.

What does this mean? While a close interval survey may seem like a commodity purchase, consideration of the various factors indicate that the results some deliver are much more valuable than others.

