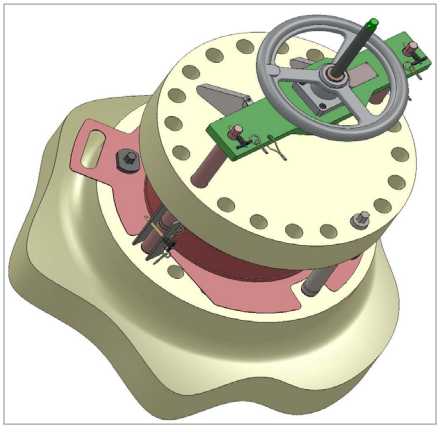
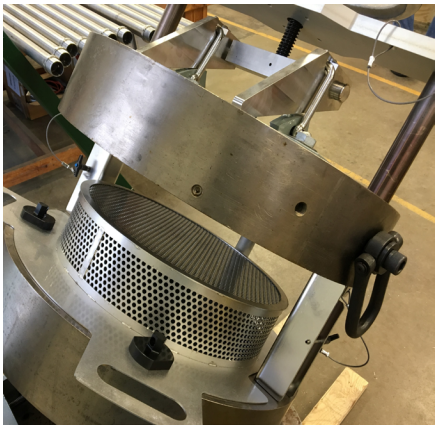
Pressurizer Vent Path Tool

Outage and Fuel Solutions

Nuclear Power Products and Services





About

Since 1973, Curtiss-Wright has reduced operating costs and lead times, and improved safety to commercial nuclear and fossil power plants, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense and other markets by supplying ASME Code, safety-related, NQA-1 and commercial grade products and services.

CHALLENGE

Lifting the manway cover to vent the pressurizer during outage activities prevented the polar crane from being used for other critical tasks.

SOLUTION

The Pressurizer Vent Path Tool raises and shields the manway in a safe configuration without the need to use the polar crane, freeing the crane for critical path outage activities.

Background

As a part of regular outage and maintenance, the pressurizer manway cover must be sufficiently raised to achieve the required vent path area for the primary coolant system. Previously, this task required use of the polar crane, tying up vital resources during maintenance.

Solution

The Pressurizer Vent Path Tool enables the manway cover to be raised using guide rods and a jacking screw that is manually operated with a hand wheel. After the cover is raised, cover supports are inserted between the cover and manway flange to safely maintain the vent path area; an FME screen is locked in place over the manway opening to prevent foreign material or accidental personnel entry.

Status

Currently, the Pressurizer Vent Path Tool is utilized by several utilities, providing a wide range of benefits from freeing up the use of the polar crane to improving personnel safety. The efficient, safety-oriented design has provided a reduction in needed staff as well as a reduction in overall dose, improving and surpassing ALARA goals.

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