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AAF BRINGS HEPA (EPA)-CLASS FILTRATION FOR GAS TURBINES TO NORTH AMERICA

Louisville, KY (September 19, 2012) — AAF, a world leader in gas turbine air filtration technology, today announced the North American release of its line of HydroShield™ depth-loading membrane HEPA (EPA)-class filtration systems for gas turbines.

The announcement coincides with a presentation before the Fall 2012 Conference of the Combustion Turbine Operations Technical Forum (CTOTF) in San Diego, Calif., by James K. Ross, Aftermarket Business Manager for the AAF Power & Industrial Division in Cramlington, UK.

The conference, now in its 37th year, is attended by combustion turbine owners/operators in the electric utility industry. Addressing members of the conference Wednesday morning, Ross delivered a report detailing the performance benefits for gas turbine machinery made possible by HEPA (EPA)-class filtration.

Ross says the HEPA (EPA) filtration systems developed by AAF – first in Europe, Asia and the Middle East and now available to gas turbine operators in the Americas – are unique in that they can be used in even the harshest environments, including offshore, coastal, tropical and desert environments.

“To properly maintain power and efficiency, a gas turbine filter must resist not only dust and dirt, but also repeated exposure to fog, moisture, salt spray and hydrocarbons,” Ross explained. “Our HydroShield filters employ a specially designed multi-layer media with proprietary depth-loading membrane technology that protects the turbine’s complex rotating parts under any environmental conditions.” The media has been optimized to offer E10 and E12 HEPA efficiency grades, according to Ross.

HydroShield delivers increased turbine reliability and lower operating costs

With an initial filtration efficiency of 99.5% or greater at the smallest penetrating particle size, AAF HydroShield filters help maintain gas compressor cleanliness by recovering 6% of the power output normally lost to engine fouling in non-power loss megawatt hours. The advanced protection provided by AAF HEPA (EPA)-class filtration helps keep engine cores in close-to-new condition during operation. As a result, cycles between on- or offline water washing can be drastically reduced, or even eliminated.

“Our goal when AAF began installing HEPA-class filters for our customers was to make a gas turbine engine that previously required daily water washing run for at least 8,000 hours without washing,” said Kent Mertz, AAF Machinery Filtration Product Manager. “Now 8,000 hours without washing is routine. In fact, we have engines operating in excess of 24,000 hours without washing.”

The higher cost of HEPA (EPA) filters is justified by the savings they generate, Mertz explained. “Increased turbine availability – all that downtime saved – is huge. Recovery of lost power, lower fuel costs, fewer maintenance costs. It all adds up,” he said.

More information about AAF's advanced HEPA (EPA)-class filtration technology for gas turbine engines is available online at www.aafgtsolutions.com.

About AAF

AAF International, based in Louisville, Kentucky, maintains operations in 24 countries and has more than 2,800 employees worldwide. AAF designs, develops, and manufactures air filtration solutions for commercial, industrial, cleanroom, transportation, and nuclear power applications, and specializes in providing HEPA (EPA)-class filtration for the gas turbine industry. AAF is supported in its international ventures through the resources of its parent company, Daikin Industries, Ltd., a diversified international manufacturing company and global leader in air-conditioning based in Osaka, Japan. More information about AAF can be found online at www.aafintl.com.

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