CASE STUDY

ASSIGNMENT

CUSTOMER:
QUALI-TORC
– Equalizer Exclusive Distributor in France

LOCATION:
FRANCE- NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

DATE
OCTOBER 2017

BACKGROUND

The customer had to remove various size and classes of valves in various positions including horizontally and vertically with very limited access. Distances including the flange to flange dimensions were numerous due to different types, sizes and configurations of the pipework. The client first contacted Equalizer through our exclusive distributor in France, Quali-Torc in October 2017. The enquiry was then passed from Quali-Torc to the Equalizer Technical & Design Team in our Head Office in Aberdeen. A design brief was held with Quali-Torc and the client with an agreed lead time for the design, testing and ultimate production of the tools. The tools were delivered to the client in February 2018.

PROBLEM

Using standard tooling, the client could not open two opposing flanges on a valve with sufficient distance to drop the gaskets and remove the valve.

The customer had 4 specific requests regarding the bespoke tool:

• The distances from flange to flange were from a minimum of 360mm to maximum 450mm.
• The tool had to manage to spread a maximum of 100mm once mounted on the flanges ready to spread apart.
• The tool had to mount and actuate spreading from M27, M30 and M33 bolt holes.
• It had to be 1 (one) tool to cover all above specifications.
EQUALIZER SOLUTION

Once the initial discussions had taken place with both our exclusive distributor and the client we produced a model of what was requested to carry out all the works. We also managed to modify an existing tool in our range, a standard SG11TMSTD. An extended cantilever and actuator arm, various sizes of short and long collet holder’s kits including additional ancillary tooling were added to the standard tool to come up with a bespoke solution for the client.

Bespoke Tool Ref – SG11TM820LCSTD

OUTCOME/MOVING FORWARD

Good practice to involve all parties from the start and have a clear understanding of goals and deliverables.

TRADITIONAL METHODS

• Valve Changeout tool
• Secure Grip Tool
• Rigging & Fox Wedges
• Traditional hand tools, pinch bars etc
• Manual handling
• Crane
• Forklift

CUSTOMER BENEFITS

Safer to use
Saves times
Cost effective
Correct tool for the scope

TECHNICAL ENQUIRY?

Please visit our website
www.equalizerinternational.com/contact