The quill had been designed to be removed from a small access aperture in the side of the pipe-line by unfastening its flanged connection and sliding it straight outward. As the quill was bent around, once the bolts had been removed from its flange, the device could not be removed. Gaining access to straighten or break the quill were impractical, so some means of extracting the device through its intended aperture was required.
PIPELINE QUILL REMOVAL

TRADITIONAL METHODS

Hammering steel wedges into the gap risked injury and damage to the flanges and pipeline, and would not provide a smooth and controlled force that may risk the quill breaking and becoming lost in the pipeline.

EQUALIZER SOLUTION

Equalizer proposed the use of its high-power spreading wedges to extract the quill. Several SW15TE tools were employed in the 6mm access gap between the flanges, and the large spreading capabilities of the tool enabled the quill to be pulled out, straightening the bent shaft gradually as it was pulled outwards.

OUTCOME

Down-time was minimised, no personnel were endangered, the flange and pipe-work were undamaged. The quill remained unbroken, so no fragments were lost into the pipe-line.

CUSTOMER BENEFITS

• Offering a spreading solution where no other safe options existed
• Sufficient spreading capacity to straighten damaged quill
• Safe, controlled flange spreading

TECHNICAL ENQUIRY?
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