

Technical Presentation:

Packing Leak Detector®



MARY L. LANDRIEU

Senator Mary Landrieu's 12/13/2013 advocacy letter to U.S. EPA.

United States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

December 13, 2013

Gina McCarthy
Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Natural Gas STAR Program
MC 6207J
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

I am writing on behalf of M-Squared Products & Services, Inc., which has submitted a Memorandum of Understanding to the EPA for the Natural Gas STAR Program. It is a pleasure for me to support their efforts to have their Packing Leak Detector (PLD) highly recommended to end users through this program.

This PLD allows operators to determine when packing is leaking and provides a rough measurement of the leakage amount. This allows the operator to determine the most cost effective time to change the packing, and also provides a method to redirect the leaking gas into the low pressure side of a recovery system to be recompressed for production. It is my understanding that the resulting savings in the pollution sector would be outstanding, with aggregate savings at two million tons of CO2 equivalent saved per year.

I would appreciate every appropriate consideration, within the applicable guidelines, be given to M-Squared Products & Services' application during the review. In closing, I ask for any information you may now provide on this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you about the final decision.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Mary L. Landrieu

United States Senator



Packing leaks are significant contributors to Green House Gases (GHG).

EPA estimates over 50,000 compressors X 4 cyl/compressor = 200,000 cylinders releasing 65 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas annually to the atmosphere attributed to packing leaks¹

Leak Rate/ Cylinder/Minute (scfm)	Leak Rate/ Cylinder/Day (Mcf)	Lost Gas Production/ Cylinder/Year (MMcf)	
5	7.20	(2.529)	average
12	17.28	(6.220)	highest
			ANCK AND ADDRESS.



Packing Leak Rate Real World Data

Actual Field Measurements of Leaking Packing													
Measurements taken with a Fox Thermal Meter Model 10A													
Location	1st QTR	Packing	Packing	Loss \$	1st QTR	Packing	Packing	Loss \$	2nd. QTR	Packing	Packing	Loss \$	
	Testing	Leak Rate	Leak Rate	Per /Day	Testing	Leak Rate	Leak Rate	Per /Day	Testing	Leak Rate	Leak Rate	Per /Day	
	Date	CFM	CF/Day		Date	CFM	CF/Day		Date	CFM	CF/Day		
	2/23/2010	2.4	3456	\$ 13.82	2/6/2011	3.10	4464	\$ 17.86	4/6/2011	0.88	1267.2 \$	5.07	
	2/23/2010	6.5	9360	\$ 37.44	2/6/2011	4.26	6134.4	\$ 24.54	4/6/2011	1.40	2016 \$	8.06	
	2/23/2010	3.5	5040	\$ 20.16	2/6/2011	2.34	3369.6	\$ 13.48	4/6/2011	0.55	792 \$	3.17	
	2/23/2010	2	2880	\$ 11.52	2/6/2011	1.76	2534.4	\$ 10.14	4/6/2011	0.31	446.4 \$	1.79	
	2/23/2010	2.8	4032	\$ 16.13	4/4/2011	0.69	993.6	\$ 3.97	4/11/2011	0.69	986.4	3.95	
	2/23/2010	1.1	1584	\$ 6.34	4/4/20	20.23	29131.2	\$ 116.52	4/11/2011	0.88	1267.2	5.07	
	2/23/2010	5	7200	\$ 28.80	4/1	2.30	3312	\$ 13.25	4/11/2011	0.45	643.68	2.57	
	2/23/2010	2.9	4176	\$ 16.70	.4	0.35	504	\$ 2.02	4/11/20	17.10	24624 \$	98.50	
	2/23/201	8.1	11664	\$					5/1-	2.65	3816 \$	15.26	
	2/23/2	4.6	6624	\$					4	1.00	1440 \$	5.76	
		5.5	7920						//2011	5.70	8208 \$	32.83	
	∠010	0	0	\$ -					5/17/2011	2.90	4176 \$	16.70	
	3/2/2010	0	0	\$ -					5/21/2011	0	0 \$	-	
	3/2/2010	1.7	2448	\$ 9.79					5/21/2011	1.4	2016 \$		
	3/2/2010	0	0	\$ -					5/21/2011	0	0 \$	-	
	3/2/2010	1.6	2304	\$ 9.22					5/21/2011	1.15	1656 \$	6.62	
	3/2/2010	1.3	1872	\$ 7.49					5/21/2011	2.5	3600 \$	14.40	
	3/2/2010	4.8	6912	\$ 27.65					5/21/2011	2.6	3744 \$	14.98	
									5/21/2011	2.3	3312 \$	13.25	
									5/21/2011	2.8	4032 \$	16.13	



Packing Leak Detection

Currently, it is neither easy nor inexpensive for mechanics to determine packing case leak rates. Compressors operate weeks or months with substantial leaks.



Determining packing leaks (pre-PLD):

- Handling vent lines, overheating
- Optical Gas Imaging (OGI)—static data point
- Observing oil blowing from vent line(s)
- Feeling gas in palm

Imprecise methods don't quantify leaking gas volume

 When tubed to vents & flares, impossible to determine lost gas volume



Packing Leak Detection



PLD: first tool establishing real-time, ZERO-leak packing baseline, helping operators assess health & effectiveness of compressor packing



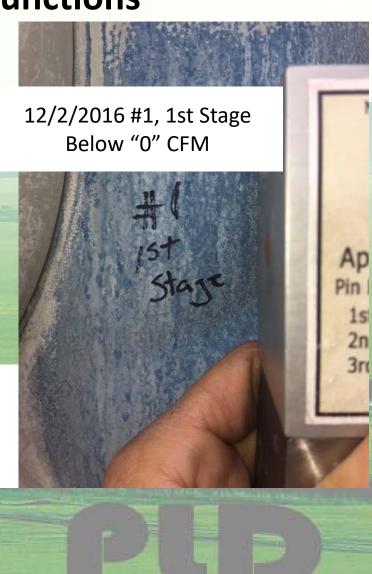
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (https://www.bsee.gov)

Packing Leak Detectors determine:

Over/Under-lubrication







Packing Leak Detectors determine:

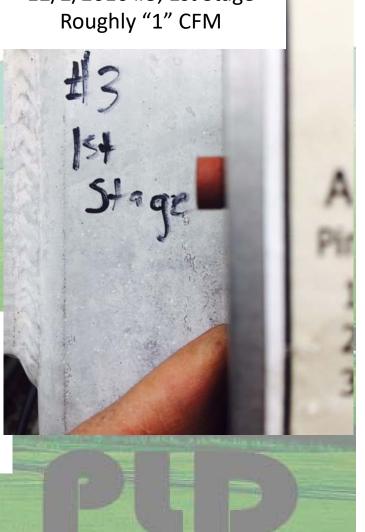
- Over/Under-lubrication
- Improper packing material



12/2/2016 #3, 1st Stage Roughly "1" CFM



- Over/Under-lubrication
- Improper packing material
- Incorrect packing installation





Packing Leak Detectors determine:

- Over/Under-lubrication
- Improper packing material
- Incorrect packing installation
- Piston rod hardness/smoothness

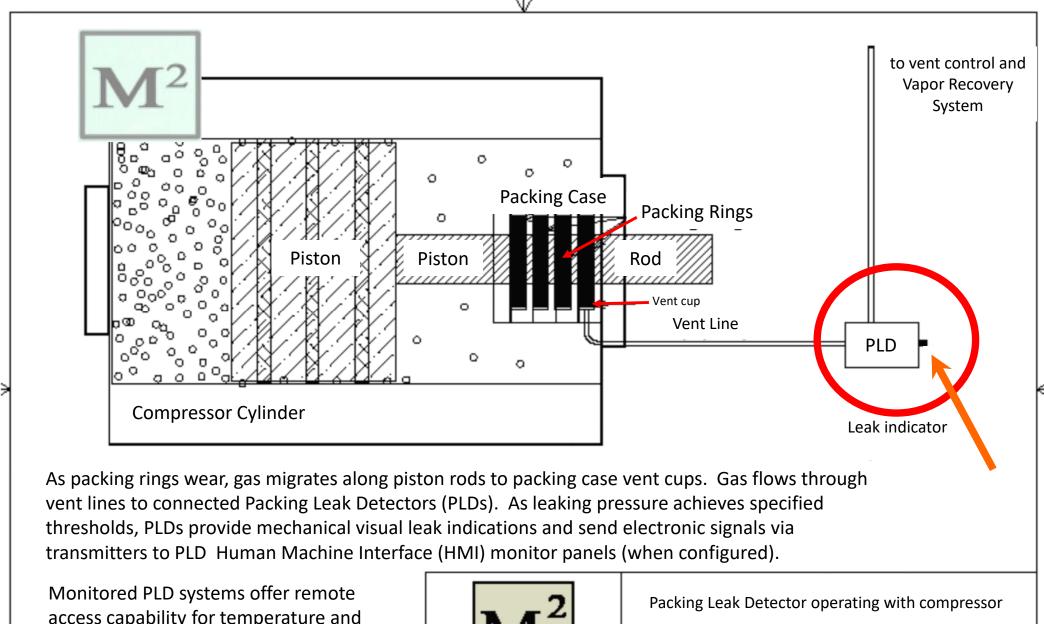




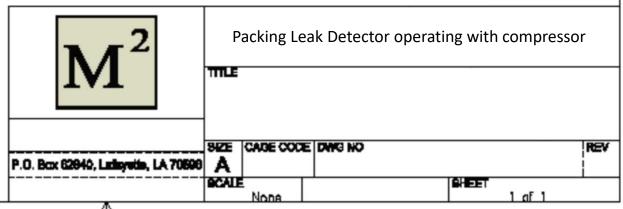
Packing Leak Detectors determine:

- Over/Under-lubrication
- Improper packing material
- Incorrect packing installation
- Piston rod hardness/smoothness
- Piston ring wear / rod drop
- 24 hour monitoring (dynamic or static state)
- Compatible for different type gases on multiple services
- Ensure packing gland health





Monitored PLD systems offer remote access capability for temperature and pressure data via Modbus RTU RS232 or RS485 Serial COMM. Data can be manipulated to meet requirements.





Packing Leak Detection: Future

M-Squared Packing Leak Detectors are simple, inexpensive devices tubed to packing vents.

• Pre-determined, industry-appropriate or general leak rate thresholds, such as 1.0-2.5 scfm, can be calibrated.

Mechanical Pin PLDs

A visual indicator (pin) extends in response to packing leaks

Pins are calibrated to indicate gas leak rate/volume.

Transmitter-equipped PLDs

Offer remote monitoring capability & include temperature and pressure data.

- Via Modbus RTU RS232 or RS485 Serial COMM
- Provided Modbus registered data can be manipulated to meet requirements



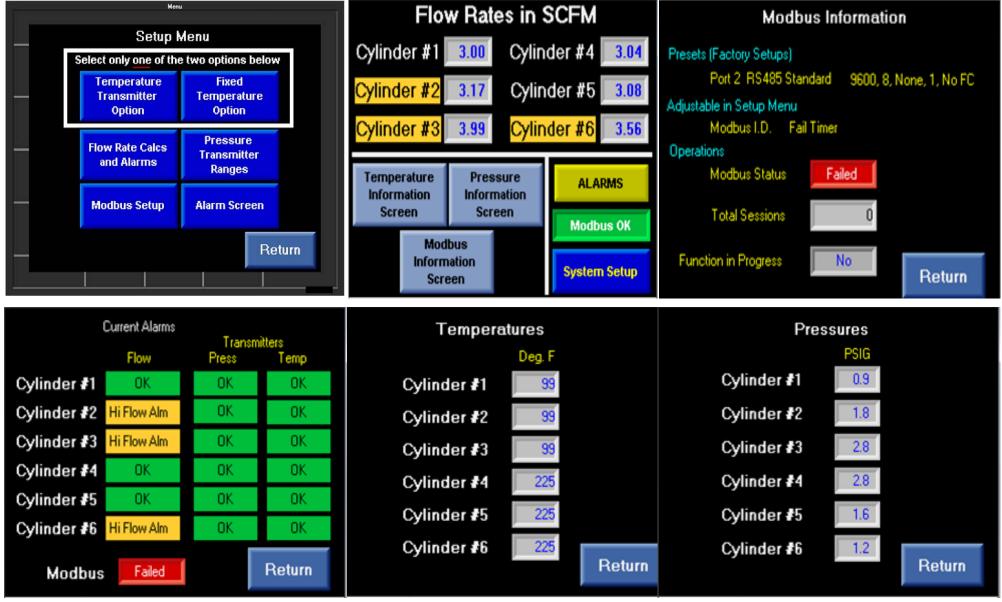




- PLD PLC Panel
- Modbus RTU via RS485/RS232
- Analog inputs
- Fits in existing panel or stand-alone NEMA enclosure
- 24 VDC
- Class 1 Division 2-rated
- SD card slot
- PLD Panel Program

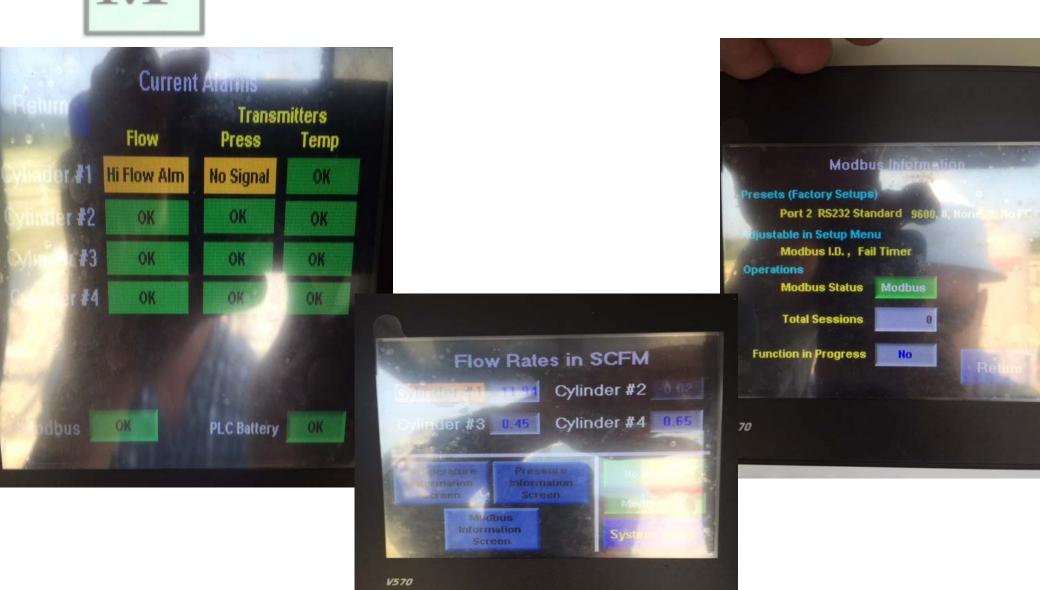


Sample PLD® Monitor Screen Shots





Sample PLD® Monitor screen shots

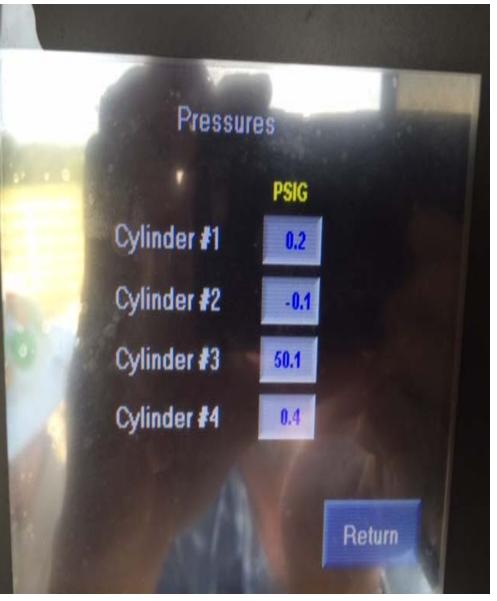


CYLINDER # IS THROW # NOT STAG



Sample PLD® Monitor screen shots







Configurations

PLD with pressure/temperature transmitters, cables , Zero-Emissions block, mounting bracket and wiring Condulet box ²





¹Mechanical PLD, anodized aluminum or 316 stainless without pressure ports.

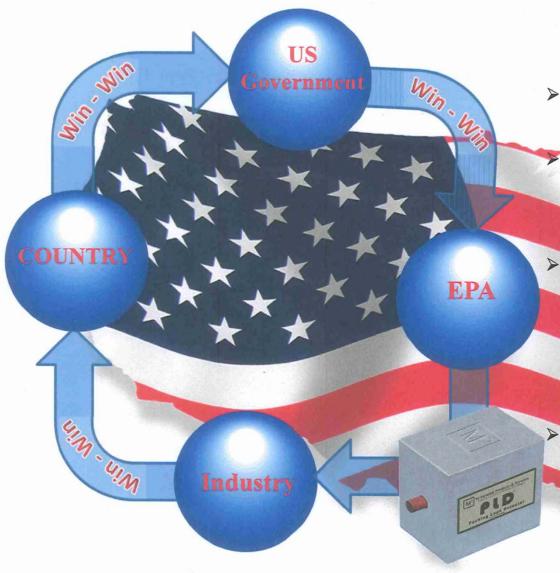
²Digital PLD, anodized aluminum or 316 stainless with pressure and temperature ports.



PLD Benefits

- Real-time, ZERO-leak baselines for new or rebuilt packing
- Engineered for different gases and varying rates
- Can be used on multiple service compressors
- PLD outlets can be redirected for low-pressure gas applications pending packing servicing or replacement
- 24 X 7 local monitoring
- Installations configured for PLD monitor panels offer capability to remotely access temperature and/or pressure data
- Communication via Modbus RTU RS485/RS232
- Data can be manipulated to meet requirements





PLD Benefits

- ➤ Win-Win for Federal &State Government, EPA, Industry, and Country.
- Domestically, using the PLD, can reduce an estimated 65.1 Bcf / Year of Methane emissions from the Production, Processing, Transportation and Storage Sectors.
- > Reducing the loss of methane into the atmosphere by one half is equal to saving 45 billion dollars every year. That is 45 billion dollars in additional revenue for the producing companies, and 45 billion potential taxable dollars for the federal and state governments.
- Savings in the pollution sector would be 18 million grams of CO2 equivalent or about 20 tons per year less pollution per cylinder.

 Aggregate savings would be two million tons of CO2 equivalent saved per year.

With the US Government (US Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works) approving the PLD for Best Practices, Best Technology, the EPA can then endorse the PLD, and recommend the use to the industry.



The Next Step – Gas Reclamation

Combine M² PLD[®] with vapor/vent reclamation systems. Recover, pressurize OR redirect vented gases for gathering, pipeline or storage.

Examples:

- Driver engine fuel
- Blanket gas systems (stock tanks, corrosion inhibitor)
- Production & process system



First, dynamic packing gland health tool.

Determines

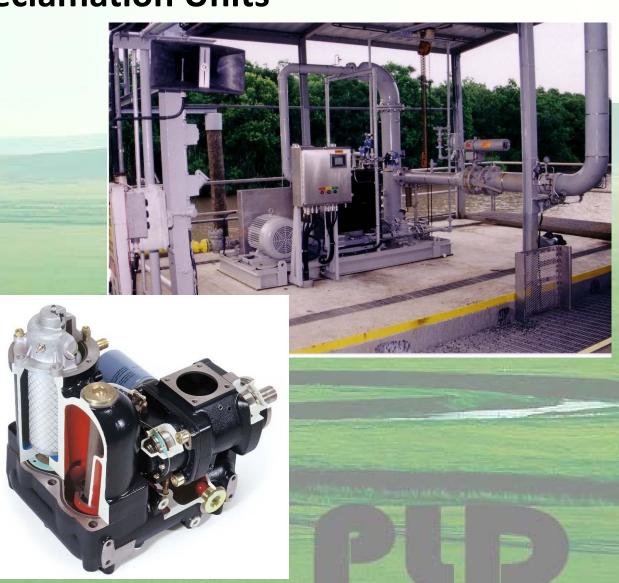
- **ZERO**-leak baselines
- Packing leaks & rates
- Packing leaks & rates in dynamic or static mode
- Packing failure
- Appropriateness of packing material
- Installation irregularities
- Excessive piston rod smoothness/hardness
- Over/under-lubrication
- Local & remote monitoring configurable



Vapor Reclamation Units

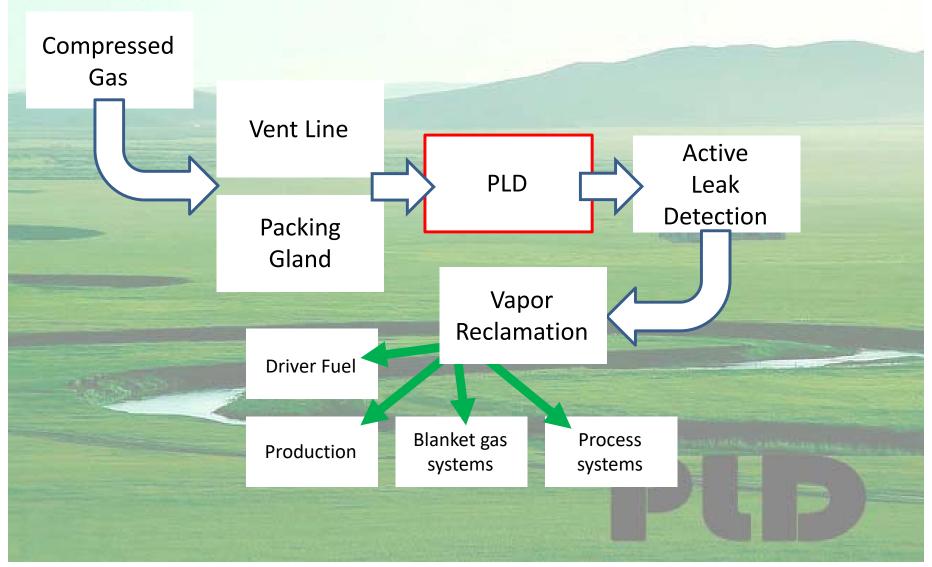








Understanding PLD integration benefits





M-Squared Products & Services, Inc.

Questions?

Contact:

Jonathan Mann, M-Squared Products & Services

001+337.280.8977 mobile

001+337.406.8028 office

jmann@m-squaredinc.com

www.m-squaredinc.com