



An inspection tool testing facility.

Transneft Diascan sets trends for ILI

The negative environmental impacts and financial costs associated with large scale oil spills, pipe breaks, leaks and other emergencies is a serious concern for oil and gas operators. For more than 25 years, Transneft Diascan has been a trend-setter in providing inline inspection and diagnostic products and services for pipelines, at first in Russia and now elsewhere.

Every year the world oil industry loses considerable quantities of product due to spills, while pipe breaks, explosions on oil platforms, and leaks cause environmental disasters and lead to serious financial losses for operators. Untimely or inefficient inline inspections (ILIs) are also a major contributor to oil spills and leaks.

The compensation for these events is costly, not only for oil producing companies, but also for entire countries. Rather than managing the consequences of these emergencies, early ILI and subsequent repair of pipelines based on the reports are much more beneficial for operators.

ADAPTATION TO INNOVATION

In 1991, a Diascan technical diagnostics centre was founded based on the largest company for petroleum products transportation in Russia, Glavtransneft (currently known as PJSC Transneft).

The company's main goal at that time was to equip itself with the best samples of foreign equipment to provide inspections for Russian pipelines.

Over time the company began to develop and manufacture its own equipment, which was capable of identifying pipeline damage using non-destructive testing methods.

In the early 2000s, Diascan created its own device: a flaw detector, which used ultrasound and could detect metal lamination and corrosion. In the years that have followed, the company has researched and developed a whole range of high precision tools, which can now identify almost all existing types of defect. Initially, some of the components were purchased abroad, but after rebranding as Transneft Diascan in 2014, the company gradually installed a full production cycle to offer ILI services, instrument development, and technical solutions.

Transneft Diascan has facilities for full-cycle inspection equipment and spare part production, as well as a testing laboratory, a liquid testing site, and a data analysis centre, allowing it to actively conduct inspection and to lead in development of innovations for the industry.



A combined magnetic and ultrasonic inspection tool is inserted into a pipeline.

A SOLUTION FOR EACH DEFECT

Today, the design department of the company – founded in 2001 – has designed and produced more than 90 operating devices, with inspection tools ranging from 6 to 48 inches (152 to 1,219 mm) in diameter.

One of Transneft Diascan’s key developments is a multichannel geometry pig, which measures the size of an inline defect, identifies its location, the volume of the internal flow section and the bend radii of pipelines of various diameters. An inline device is used to identify the position of a pipeline and record movement during operation.

Various inspection tools help identify various defects, using ultrasonic scanning (WM series), magnetic-flux leakage (MFL) detection, and a combined tool (MFL + TFI series) with both longitudinal and transverse magnetisation. Timely inspection of the pipeline for metal loss and the presence of cracks in the longitudinal and transverse directions can be performed in one run using a combined magnetic-ultrasonic flaw detector (MFL + WM + CD).

Transneft Diascan’s tool range also includes the magnetic TFI flaw detector, which allows pipeline monitoring by determining the leakage of magnetic flux during transverse magnetisation in the material of the pipeline and longitudinal welds when the flaw detector moves in the flow of the product. The company continues to develop new scientific design processes. Currently, its specialists are working on creating ILLI devices using new generation technologies.

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FROM RUSSIA TO THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET

Today, Transneft Diascan provides inspection services for customers in 12 countries across the globe. The company's operations show stable growth.

On an annual basis the company inspects more than 60,000 km of pipelines and 400 tanks. The inspection scope of Transneft Diascan over 25 years of operation has amounted to more than 1 million km of pipelines in Russia and all over the world. **P**

About Transneft Diascan

Transneft Diascan uses its inspection tools – manufactured inhouse – to perform the inspection of 6-48 inch pipelines. The company's operations use a number of different physical methods of non-destructive control, including geometry tools, ultrasound, magnetic, combined magnetic and combined magnetic and ultrasound defect detectors.

For more information visit www.en.diascan.transneft.ru

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