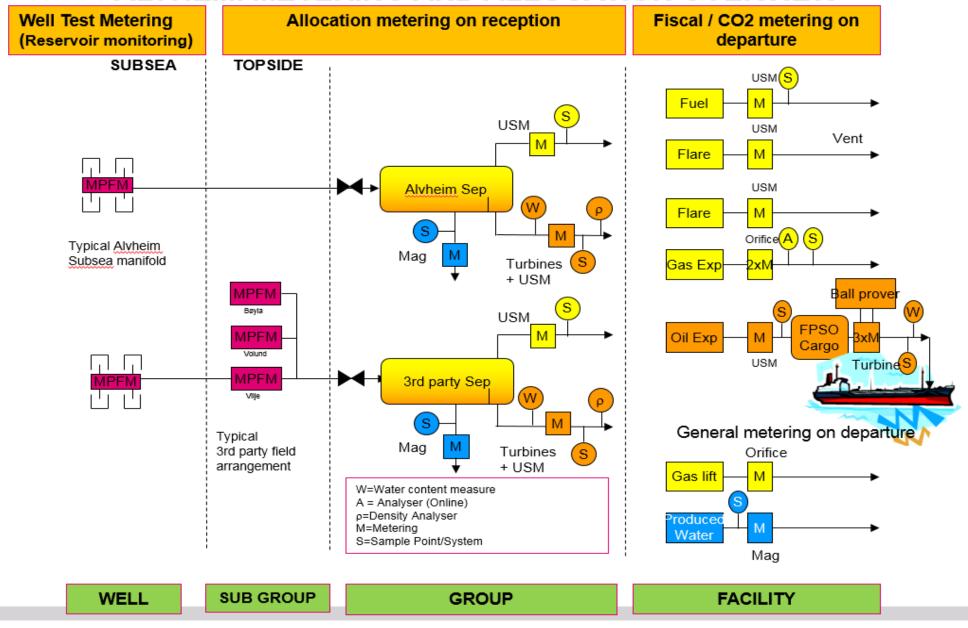
# Dual flaremeter installation Alvheim FPSO

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NFOGM Temadag Mars 2019



#### **ALVHEIM METERING AND ALLOCATION OVERVIEW**



### **ALVHEIM PROBLEM:**

- Fluenta FGM130 Flare meter, single path ultrasonic flare meter. Often stops working at higher rates
- Liquid condensation or other problematic conditions for the meter/transducers? High velocity?
- No immediate fix for this that we are aware of
- FGM130 no longer supported.
- Difficulties in changing out transducers or other parts

#### **ALVHEIM SOLUTION?**

- Alvheim already have the GE Panametrics flare meter on the cold vent line, works ok, but low rates
- Other AkerBP installations have the Panametrics flare meter installed, reporting same issues with higher rate flaring as Alvheims Fluenta FGM130. Resulting in many corrections.
- Upgrade/replace to a new flare meter. Which one? Panametrics? Sick? Fluenta FGM160?
- Various experiences collected from many operators told us that there was no guarantee that a change out to a new meter would solve our problems
- DP Based flare tip calculation of rates?





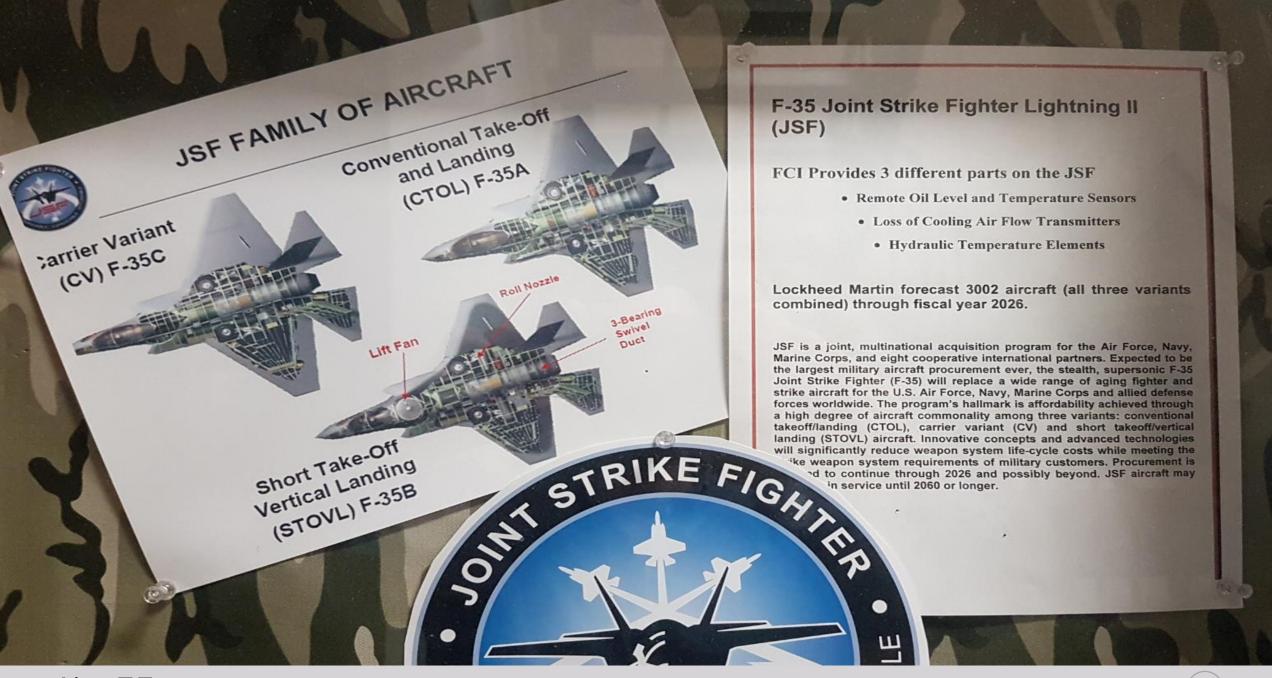


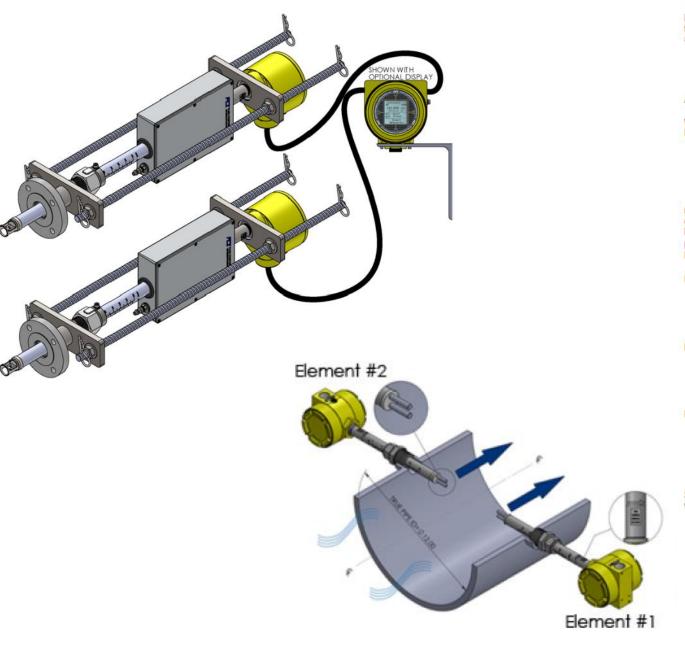
■ABB LGR-950 H2S and O2 analyzer FAT



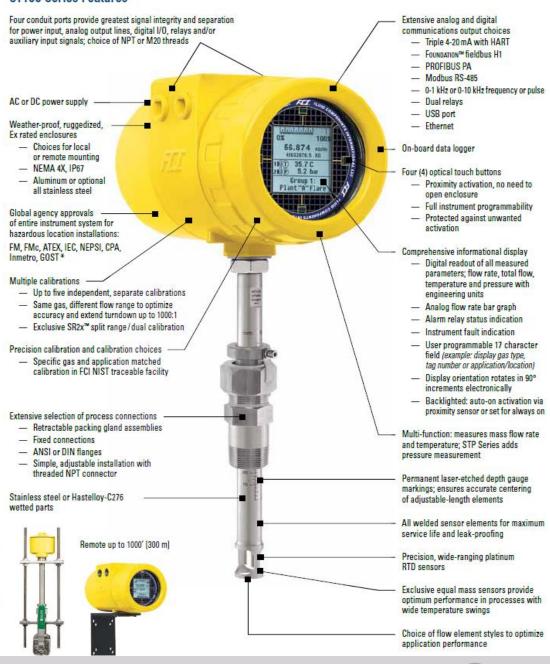






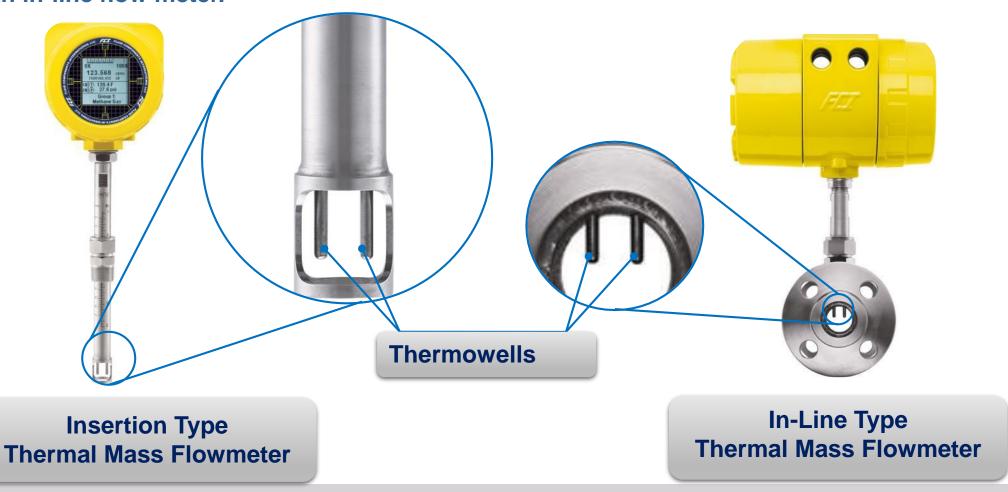


#### ST100 Series Features



## **Theory** Construction of Sensor

Flow element consists of 2 thermo-wells welded to the end of a probe or inside of a spool piece, it can be an insertion meter or mounted directly in a spool piece in case of an in-line flow meter.



## Theory

### Construction of Sensor & Delta R/T of RTD's

#### **Active RTD:**

RTD sensor (Pt1000  $\Omega$ ) plus heater element in one thermowell

Reference RTD: RTD sensor (Pt1000  $\Omega$ ) in one thermowell

#### **Signal Processing:**

Electronics supplies
constant power to Active
RTD sensor and senses
the temperature difference
between Active RTD and
Reference RTD flow
sensor

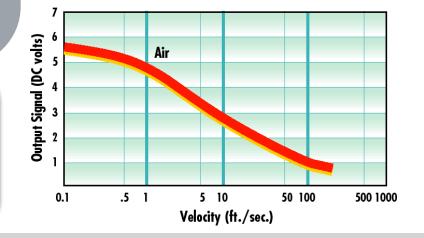
#### **Mass Flowmeter:**

The temperature difference between the Active and Reference flow sensors is directly proportional to the mass flow of the gas.

Neated

Sensor

Unheated Sensor



### Theory of Operation: Types of Technology

There are 2 types of Thermal Technology:

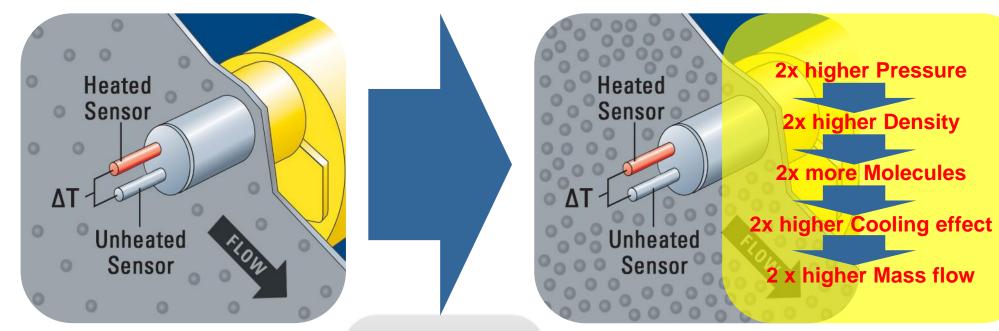
- 1) Constant Temperature (All other thermal manufacturers): Adjusts heater current to keep Delta T always the same and measures the current that it takes to keep it the same Delta T between the sensors.
  - Results in unstable flow measurement in wet or dirty gas.
  - Requires electronics (signal amplifiers and filters) mounted in local probe enclosure with remote configuration.

- 2) Constant Current (ST100): Uses Constant Power heater current and measures the Delta R which is dependent on the process media and flow velocity. (FCI Patented Technology)
  - Results in stable flow measurement in wet and dirty gas.
  - No electronics mounted in local probe enclosure with remote configuration.



### Theory

### Theory of Operation Pressure Change



Case 1

Medium: Natural Gas Pipe: DN100x1.5

Temp: 20°C

Velocity: 25.7 m/sec (actual)

Pressure: 100 KPa

Density: **0.7 kg/m³** (actual)

**Event** 

Pressure increases from 1 to 2 Bar, all others remains

others remains

the same

Case 2

Medium: Natural Gas Pipe: DN100x1.5

Temp: 20°C

Velocity: 25.7 m/sec (actual)

Pressure: **200 KPa** 

Density: 1.4 kg/m³ (actual)

Measured  $\Delta T = 21^{\circ}C$ 

**Measured Mass Flow rate = 500 KG/Hr** 

Measured  $\Delta T = 18.5$  °C

**Measured Mass Flow rate = 1000 KG/Hr** 





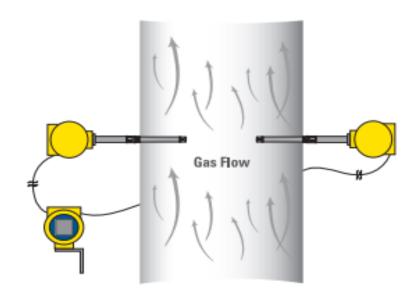
# Flare Flowmeter

### **Thermal Mass Flowmeter Dual Sensing**

- Dual Sensing system with averaging transmitter
- To get uncertainty down to 5% or better

#### **Challenges**

 Distorted, swirling and non-repeatable flow profiles due large pipe sizes



IMPROVED INSTALLATION ACCURACY AND REPEATABILITY BY AVERAGING THE FLOW RATES



#### **ST100 SERIES**

### RETRACTABLE HOT TAPE INSTALLATION

#### **ALLOWS RETRACTION UNDER PRESSURE**

NO DOWNTIME TO PLANT OPERATIONS



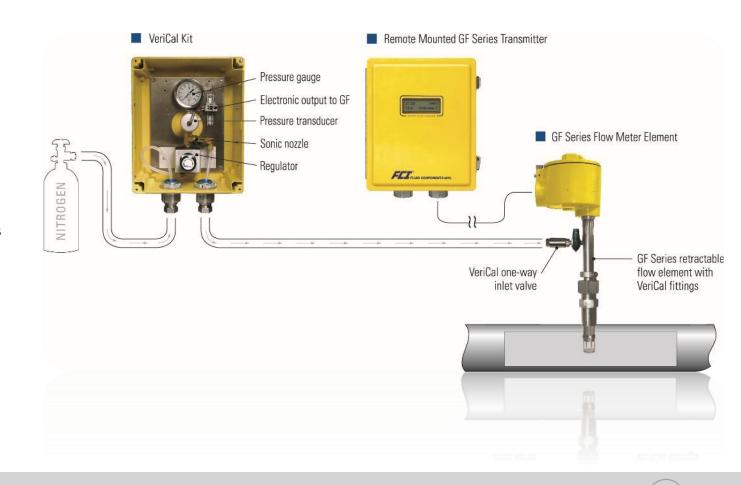
PROBE NORMAL OPERATION WITH BALL VALVE OPEN

PROBE RETRACTED
WITH BALL VALVE CLOSED

### How can we verify the accuracy of the thermal mass flare meter?

- Flow meter has a VeriCal system included that allows a local verification of the accuracy, due to simulating a specific flow on the thermal sensor
- Measuring results will inform client on instruments performance, i.e verification purpose
- Validation of correct transmitter settings, upon installation
- Troubleshooting excessive dirt built-up on flow element
- Mechanical damage to element
- It is also a "flush" of the element that can be tried if problems occur
- Does it really say something on accuracy?
- Do the USM transducer zero flow test in a box?

#### **VeriCal On site calibration System**







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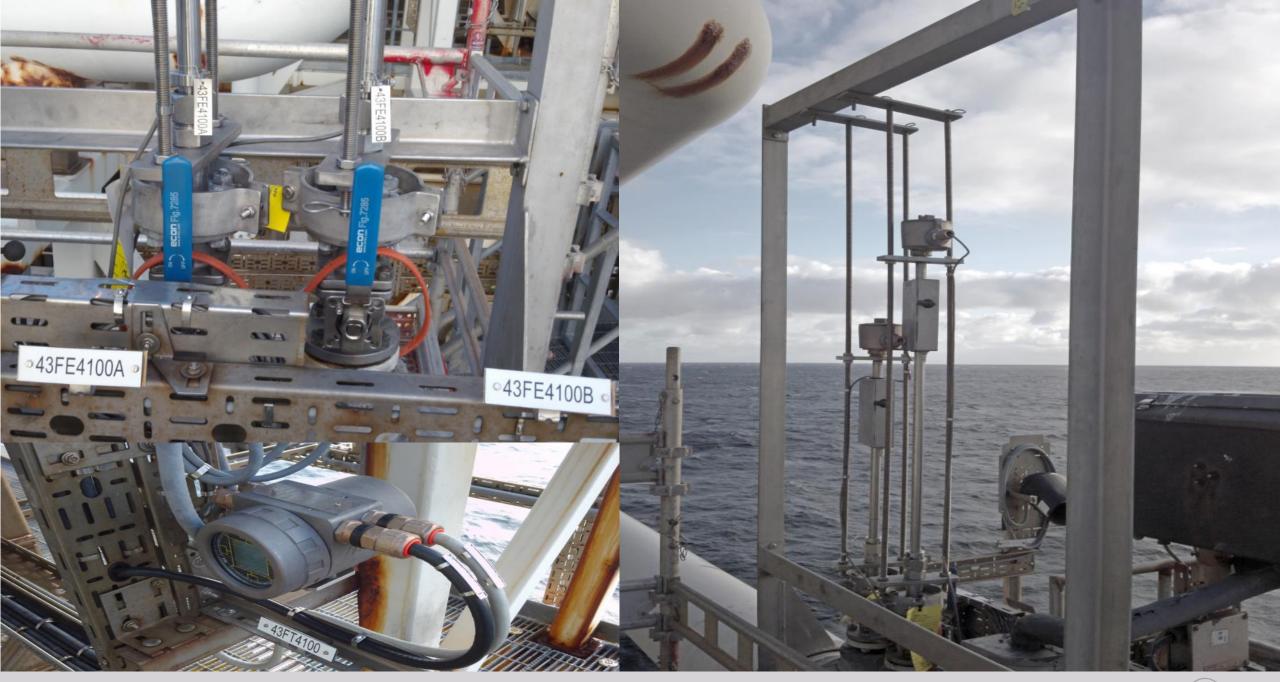


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- ST100 has built in temperature measurement
- Sending Temp to FGM130, which then operates as normal
- ST100 conversion to Std volume using FGM130 density

Flare Gas 43II001					
evel					
Data from Flare Gas Computer		FGM130	ST100		
Pressure Temperature Velocity Mass Flow Rate Std. Volume Flow Rate	bara degC m/s kg/h Sm3/h	2.00 2.07 45.00 715.06 572.13	2.04 2.63 123.00		
Mass previous day Std. Volume previous day	kg Sm3	1000 800.0	49564 60498.0		
Acc. Mass (NRS) Acc. Std. Volume (NRS)	kg Sm3	13868 11094	139268		
Density Mole weight Kinetic Viscosity Compress. at Std. Cond. Compress. at Oper. Cond. Velocity of sound Historical Velocity of sound Upstream delay Downstream delay Optical delay CW factor Upstream transit time Downstream transit time Delta CW Pipe diameter	kg/m3 kg/kmol m/s m/s	0.8210 18.23000 5.0000000 0.99990 0.97000 384.60 383.00 1.00 2.00 3.00 2.50 42.00 24.00 0.10 0.7620	0.8210		
Calculated by PM					
Mass today Std. Volume today	kg Sm3	7168 5734	59167 72086		





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### Flare metering overview

- A new flare meter was installed in series with the existing one. Now we have a new FCI ST100 flare meter and the old Fluenta FGM130 meter running. Plan here was to:
  - a) Find solution for metering of higher flare rates where normal USMs usually fail
  - b) Prepare for the day when the FGM meter no longer works (No longer supported)
  - c) Investigate (in the name of science) whether existing USM flare meters work as well as intended
  - d) Always be on the forefront of technology





Monthly Report 01/11/2018 00:00

**Alvheim** 

Flare Gas 43II001

Page 1 of 1

#### **Accumulated Production Previous Month:**

Mass kg Std.Volume Sm3 FGM130ST1001 048 5581 040 3891 069 5791 073 506

First month of operation showed very similar results (0,3%) as existing FGM 130!



### Flare metering – Comparison old and new flare meter during trip



## Flare metering – Comparison old and new flare meter normal ops





### Flare metering – Comparison old and new flare meter normal ops





# Flare metering – Mismeasurement example – Easy correction Just use daily value from ST100

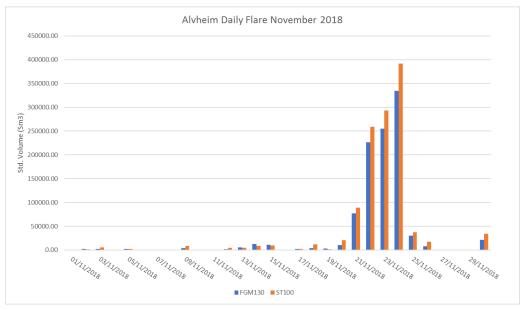


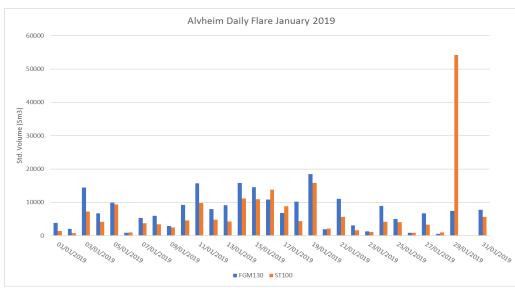
#### **Accumulated Production Previous Day:**

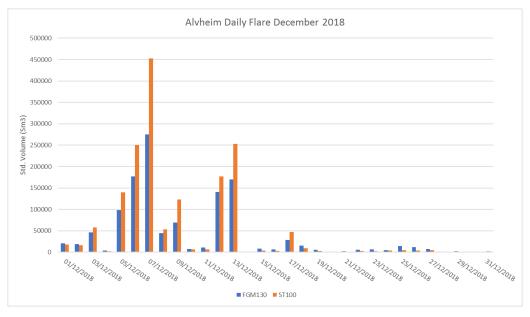
		FGM130	ST100
Mass	kg	7 397	56 790
Std.Volume	Sm3	7 394	54 237

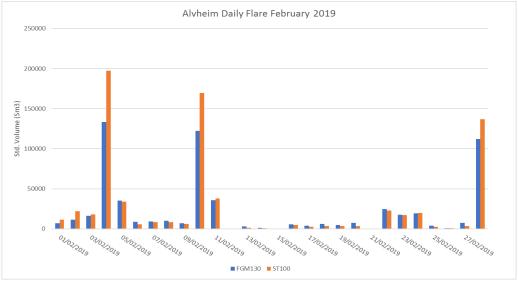


## Flare metering Alvheim, both flare meters

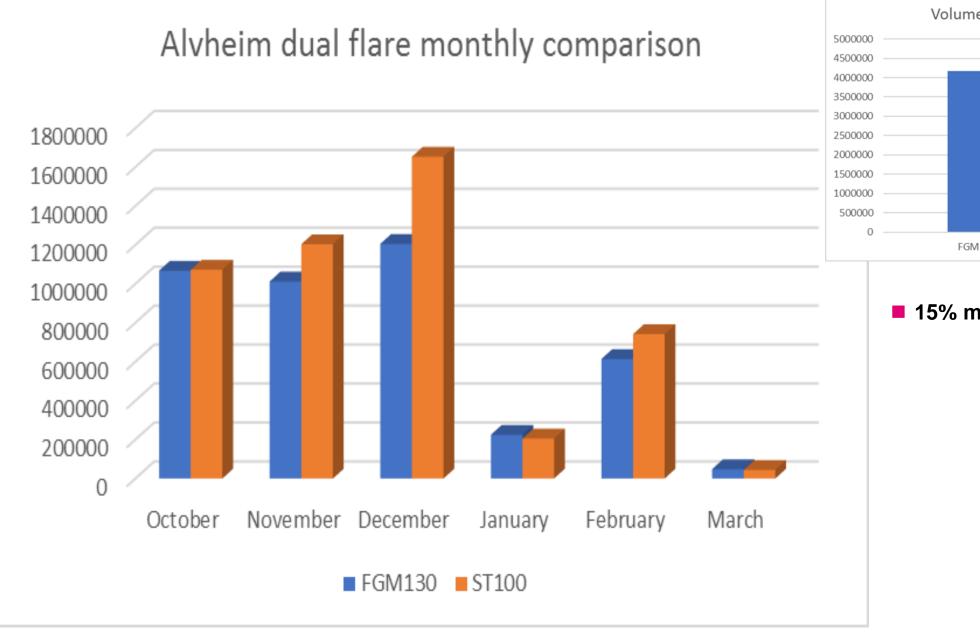


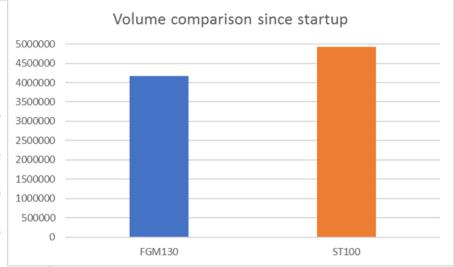












■ 15% more volume from ST100

### Conclusion/Recommendation

■ For new flaring systems, always prepare piping for insert type flowmeters by adding flanges and valves for easy installation

Cost effective and simple solution that seems to work very well





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