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U. S. Bureau of Mines  
Hydro. Demon. Plant Div.

T-154

Essen, July 16, 1942.

OPERATION COSTS IN THE SYNTHESIS GAS  
PRODUCTION IN RHEINPREUSSEN

The operating costs were computed on the strength of the heat flow sheet of the Treibstoffwerk Rheinpreussen of 7-6-42 and the computations made from it by Mr. Schürhoff on 7-13-42.

1. Computation of operation costs of a water gas installation with 10 producers of 6000 m<sup>3</sup> hourly capacity = 60,000 m<sup>3</sup> water gas/hour, or 1,440,000 m<sup>3</sup> water gas/day.

Expense per day:

1. Coke,		
$\frac{1,440,000}{1440} = 1000 \text{ te}$ , @ RM 20.-	RM 20,000.-	
2. 75 labor shifts, @ RM 12.-	RM 900.-	
3. Power		
$\frac{25 \times 1,440,000}{1000} = 36,000 \text{ kwh}$ @ RM 0.02	RM 720.-	
4. Circulating water		
$\frac{17 \times 1,440,000}{1000} = 25,000 \text{ m}^3$ @ RM 0.02	RM 500.-	
5. Make-up water, 10% of circulating water =		
$2,500 \text{ m}^3$ @ RM 0.02	RM 50.-	
6. Feed water, 1,800 m <sup>3</sup> , @ RM 0.20	RM 360.-	
7. Steam, 3 atm, 1,700 te @ RM 1.50	RM 2,550.-	
8. Amortization, interest and maintenance		
$12 + 5 = 17\%$ on 12,150,000	RM 5,750	
Total expense. per day	RM 30,830.-	

Receipts per day:

1. Steam, 16 atm, 1,440 te, @ RM 3.- = 4,320	
2. Steam, 3 atm, 325 te, @ RM 1.50 = 487	
Total receipts per day	= RM 4,807.-

Operating costs, incl. capital service  
and maintenance

Rm. 26,023.-

Operating costs/nm<sup>3</sup> water gas  $\frac{2,602,300}{1,440,000} = 1.818$  pf $\ddot{g}$

Operating costs/nm<sup>3</sup> CO + H<sub>2</sub> :  $\frac{1.818}{87.22} = 2.075$  Pf $\ddot{g}$

Rheinpreussen uses RM 17.50 as the price per te of coke. This reduces the operating costs per day to RM 23,523, or

per nm<sup>3</sup> water gas to Pf $\ddot{g}$  1.638, and  
per nm<sup>3</sup> CO + H<sub>2</sub> Pf $\ddot{g}$  1.875

II. Estimation of operating costs of a gasification plant for fines with 5 producer units of 12,000 nm<sup>3</sup> hourly capacity = 60,000 nm<sup>3</sup> water gas per hour, or 1,440,000 nm<sup>3</sup> water gas per day.

Expenses per day:

1. Coal

$\frac{1,440,000}{2,700} = 533$  te,      € RM 14.-      RM 7,460.-

2. Oxygen,  $1,440,000 \times 0.17 = 245,000$  nm<sup>3</sup>      € 0.025      6,125.-

3. 51 labor days, €      € RM 12.-      612.-

4. Power       $\frac{25 \times 1,440,000}{1000} = 36,000$  kwh      € 0.02      720.-

5. Circulating water       $\frac{17 \times 1,440,000}{1000} = 25,000$  m<sup>3</sup>      € 0.02      500.-

6. Make-up water, 10% of circ. water @ 0.02      -50.-

7. Feed water, 650 m<sup>3</sup>      € 0.20      130.-

8. Fuel gas,  $485 \times 10^6$  kcal      € 4.50      2,183.-

9. Steam, 3 atm, 578 te      € 1.50      865.-

10. Amortization, interest and maintenance,  $12 + 2\% = 14\%$  on RM 9,000,000      3,450.-

Total expense, per day      RM 22,095.-

Receipt per day: (No. carried from Pg.1) 22,095.-

Steam, 16 atm, 625 te @ RM 3.- 1,875.-  
Operating costs, includ. capital services and 20,220.-  
maintenance.

Operating costs per nm<sup>3</sup> water gas 2,022,000 = Pfg 1,405  
1,440,000

Operating costs per nm<sup>3</sup> CO + H<sub>2</sub> 1.405 = Pfg 1.69  
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III. Estimate of operating costs of a gas reforming plant for  
10,000 nm<sup>3</sup> coke oven gas = 18,000 nm<sup>3</sup> reformed gas per hour =  
356,000 nm<sup>3</sup> reformed gas per day.

Expenses per day

1. Coke oven gas, 240,000 nm <sup>3</sup>	@ RM 0.017	RM 4,080
2. Fuel gas, $232 \times 10^6$ kcal	@ 4.50	1,045
3. 9 man-days	@ 12.-	108
4. Power, $\frac{10 \times 386,500}{1000}$ = 6800 kWh	@ 0.02	116
5. Circulating water, $\frac{18 \times 386,500}{1000}$ = 7000 m <sup>3</sup>	@ 0.02	140
6. Make-up water = 10% of circ. water	@ 0.02	14
7. Steam, 3 atm. 176 te	@ 1.50	263.
8. Amortization, interest and maintenance 12 + 2% on 2,000,000 =		767.-

Operating costs, including capital services and maintenance 6,533.-

Operating costs per nm<sup>3</sup> reformed gas, 653,300 = Pfg. 1.69  
386,500

Operating costs per nm<sup>3</sup> CO + H<sub>2</sub> 1.690 x 100 = 1.98  
86.36

Rheinpreussen figures the price of coke oven gas of 1.3 Pfg per nm<sup>3</sup>, corresponding to 0.336 Pfg per 1000 kcal.

Should this value be used in the estimate of operating costs, for coke oven gas or fuel gas, the operating costs per day, including capital services and maintenance will amount to RM 5,308.-.

or, per nm<sup>3</sup> of reformed gas  $\frac{530.800}{386.800} = 1.375$ ,  
Pfg.

per nm <sup>3</sup> of CO + H <sub>2</sub>	$\frac{1.375}{83.56} = \text{Pfg } 1.61$
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The operating costs in the above computations were determined with the inclusion of capital services and maintenance, and were:

per nm<sup>3</sup> water gas from coke  
per nm<sup>3</sup> water gas from powdered coal  
per nm<sup>3</sup> reformed coke oven gas.

Below are given the costs of synthesis gas obtained by mixing of water gas obtained from coke or from powdered coal with the reformed gas from coke oven gas.

#### A). Synthesis gas with water gas from coke:

65% water gas + 35% reformed gas = 100% synthesis gas		
CO <sub>2</sub>	7.39%	5.12%
O <sub>2</sub>	0.17	0.12
CO	36.69	14.60
H <sub>2</sub>	50.53	70.76
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.37	1.90
N <sub>2</sub>	4.85	7.50

With a coke price of RM 20.- per te and a coke oven gas price of Pfg 1.7 per nm<sup>3</sup>, the cost of synthesis gas will figure to:

$$0.65 \times 1.81 + 0.35 \times 1.69 = \text{Pfg } 1.769 \text{ per nm}^3 = \\ \text{Pfg } 2.036 \text{ per nm}^3 \text{ CO + H}_2$$

With a coke price of RM 17.50/te and a coke oven gas price of Pfg. 1.3/nm<sup>3</sup>, the cost of the synthesis gas will figure to:

$$0.65 \times 1.635 + 0.35 \times 1.375 = \text{Pfg. } 1.543/\text{nm}^3 = \\ 1.775/\text{nm}^3 \text{ CO + H}_2$$

B). Synthesis gas from powdered bituminous coal.

20% water gas + 30% reformed gas = 100% synthesis gas		
CO <sub>2</sub> 16.0%	5.12%	12.70%
O <sub>2</sub> -	0.12	0.04
CO 34.0	14.60	28.00
H <sub>2</sub> 48.0	70.76	56.00
CH <sub>4</sub> -	1.80	0.56
N <sub>2</sub> 1.0	7.50	2.70

With the price of coke oven gas of Pfg. 1.7 nm<sup>3</sup>, the cost of synthesis gas will figure to

$$0.70 \times 1.405 + 0.30 \times 1.690 =$$

$$\text{Pfg } 1.487/\text{nm}^3 = \\ " 1.770/\text{nm}^3 \text{ per nm}^3 \text{ CO+H}_2$$

With the coke oven gas at Pfg 1.3/nm<sup>3</sup>, the synthesis gas figures to

$$0.70 \times 1.405 + 0.30 \times 1.375 =$$

$$\text{Pfg } 1.392/\text{nm}^3 = \\ " 1.660/\text{nm}^3 \text{ per nm}^3 \text{ CO+H}_2$$

IV. Estimation of powdered coal producer installation with 5 producer units of 12,000 nm<sup>3</sup> hourly capacity for the direct production of synthesis gas with the proportion of CO : H<sub>2</sub> = 1.2, total 60,000 nm<sup>3</sup> synthesis gas per hour, or 1,440,000 nm<sup>3</sup> synthesis gas per day.

Expense per day:

1. Coal

$$\frac{1,440,000}{2800} = 514 \text{ te} @ \text{RM } 14.- \text{ RM } 7,200$$

2. Oxygen  $1,440,000 \times 0.16 = 230,000 \text{ nm}^3$  @ 0.025 5,750.-

3. 51 man-days @ 12.- 612.-

4. Power

$$\frac{28 \times 1,440,000}{1000} = 36,000 \text{ kwh} @ 0.02 720.-$$

5. Circulating water

$$\frac{17 \times 1,440,000}{1000} = 25,000 \text{ m}^3 @ 0.02 500.-$$

6. Make up water, 10% of circul. water @ 0.02 50.-

7. Feed water, 720 m<sup>3</sup> @ 0.20 144.-

8. Fuel gas,  $547 \times 10^6$  kcal @ 4.50 2,460.-

9. Steam, 3 atm, 662 te @ 1.50 994.-

10. Amortization, interest, maintenance,

$$12 + 2 = 14\% \text{ on RM } 9,000,000 @ 3.450.-$$

Total expense per day RM 21,880.-

Receipts per day:

Steam, 16 atm., 700 te @ 3.00 2,100.-

Operating costs, including capital services and maintenance 19,780.-

Operating costs per nm<sup>3</sup> synthesis gas ~~1,978,000~~ = Pfg. 1.370  
~~1,440,000~~

Composition of synthesis gas:

CO <sub>2</sub>	18%
CO	27%
H <sub>2</sub>	54%
N <sub>2</sub>	1%

Operating costs per nm<sup>3</sup> CO + H<sub>2</sub> = ~~1.370~~ - Pfg. 1.690  
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