THERMO-WRAP™ 24 HDD

26” CRUDE PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION, SAUDI ARABIA
HDD - HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILLING

Problem

During the pull back of a pipe using the horizontal directional drilling (or thrust boring) process, the mainline fusion bonded epoxy (FBE) corrosion coating is subjected to abrasion stresses and scarring which results in coating failure that could lead to integrity issues thereby shortening the life span of the carbon steel pipeline.

Conditions

Installation crews faced numerous challenges, including sandstorms and 113°F (45°C) installation temperatures while boring through approximately 160 linear feet (49m) of rocky terrain for the new 26” OD line to be pulled through.

Solution

The Thermo-Wrap™24 HDD System was installed prior to the pull back of the 26” OD pipeline to protect the factory-applied FBE coating and girth-welded, field joints from the abrasion stresses and scarring associated with the horizontal directional drilling process. The Thermo-Wrap 24 HDD system provides mechanical protection to the approved, manufacturer-applied, FBE corrosion coating resulting in a very low profile, extremely conformable and highly impact resistant outer sleeve which protects the entire length of new pipe during the harsh pull back process.

Result

The contractor on the project successfully installed the Thermo-Wrap 24 HDD system over 160 linear feet (49m) of 26” diameter pipe ahead of schedule, resulting in a cost-effective solution while insuring the integrity of the underlying FBE coating. The project was a great success and neither the pipe nor the original coating was damaged during the HDD pull back process.

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