



■ The RDF panel's flexible design includes a one-half-width door on the back side for access to pressure switch gauges and pulsation dampeners.

the insert of the panel. What is unusual about the panel insert is the fact that all of the electronic components are mounted on a swing-out door, which gives full front access to all electronic devices for field termination of wiring and troubleshooting." Typical pressures monitored by the RDF panel include unit suction pressure, discharge pressure for each stage of compression, engine and compressor oil pressures and manifold vacuum," he said.

Roberts said the "panel also incorporates the use of a digital temperature scanner, which can monitor either type "J" or type "K" industry standard thermocouples. All channels are continuously monitored for over-temperature protection. Individual output switches are tied directly to the annunciator for positive identification of the 'out-of-temperature' excursions experienced on the compressor package. Temperatures monitored on the package typically include compressor cylinder discharge, engine jacket water and compressor lube oil."

The RDF (meaning Reliable, Dependable and Flexible) panels' design permits easy incorporation of a number of standard annunciators and temperature scanners, according to Roberts. The panels are utilized on most SEC-produced compressor packages and are available with a full range of custom instrumentation. In addition, SEC also can provide a full range of instrumentation, automation and control systems to meet the specific needs of customers. ■

NEW PANEL DESIGN FROM SEC SAVES SPACE, OFFERS EASY ACCESS

Company Said RDF Panel was Designed with Operator in Mind

By Jake Elliott

The ambient temperature can hit 105°F (41°C) or more on a balmy summer day in the Four Corners area of the Southwest U.S.A. Under these conditions, the last thing a compressor operator needs is to climb aboard a running, skid-mounted gas gathering compressor to service a problem involving the engine control panel, one with access only from the back side. Here, both the ambient and operator's temperatures can rise, due to the added heat of compression and tight working space.

With this in mind, Standard Equipment Company Energy Products & Services (SEC), in cooperation with FW Murphy and Altronic Controls Inc, now offer their newly designed control panels that allow easy access to all electronic components via a swing-

out front door. The front access design also "allows SEC to mount the panel closer to the engine and process piping than would be allowed by conventional design," according to Torrey Roberts, manager of Instrumentation and Controls for SEC.

Roberts said that, "the RDF panel enclosure is designed to occupy the smallest footprint on the compressor skid. The design incorporates a one-half-width door on the back of the enclosure, which allows access to the back of the panel-mounted pressure switch gauges and pulsation dampeners, making it easier to service the pressure indicating devices in the field.

"The front enclosure is designed with a full-opening door, allowing full access to all devices mounted on



■ The front access door on the RDF panel allows convenient access to all electronic components for field termination of wiring and troubleshooting.