

# ACID FLOW METER BLOCKAGE

EVENT REPORTED by SAM GUARD®

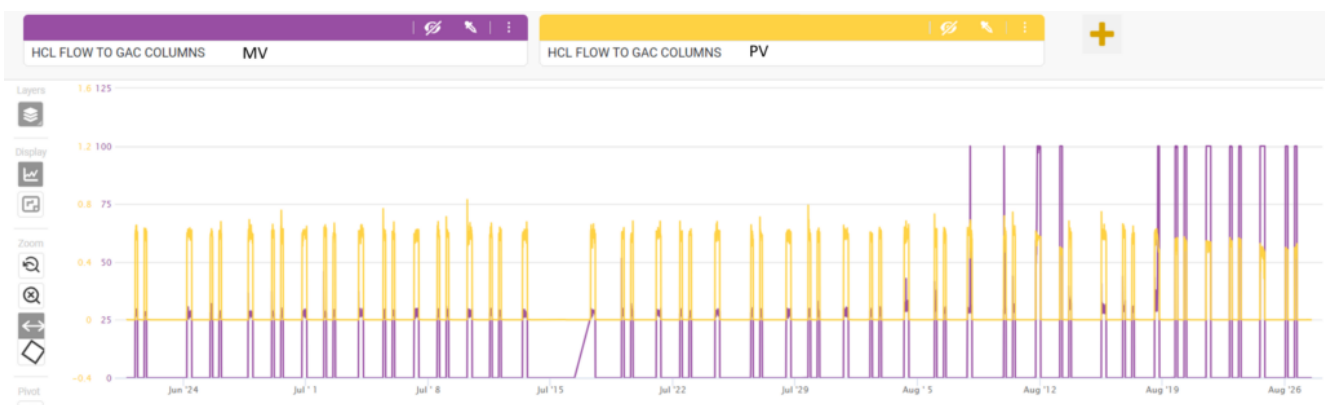
Detected a sudden raise in the manipulated value of a flow control valve.

The tubulation is the hydrochloric acid inlet on the top of a purification column. Normally the valve opening was around 30% to have the desired flow, when suddenly the valve starts opening to 100% returning the same process value as before with no SP change.

## MAINTENANCE TEAM FINDINGS

After SAM GUARD ® alert, plant team conducted an investigation on-site and it was found that the hydrochloric acid flow meter was plugging.

As the column is an important unit operation to the product's purification step, a non-expected stop in the flow would have affected the quality of the product.



## **COST / DOWNTIME AVOIDED**

SAM GUARD® alert prevented leading with major problems related to the quality of the product.

## **CUSTOMER FEEDBACK**

“This event helped prevent an issue that could impact in the quality of the product.”