Challenge

Based in Des Plaines, IL, the Gas Technology Institute (GTI) is a leading research, development and training organization serving energy markets by developing technology-based solutions for consumers, industry, and government. In addition to its research and development work, GTI offers a one-source stop for testing, engineering, and remediation services.

Brian Spiller, lab manager for GTI, was tasked with conducting a range of tests and gathering and reporting the results. The lab used a fifteen year-old, 60,000 lb. Tinius Olsen tensile testing frame. While the mechanics of the frame were working well, the non-computerized system that had been retrofitted to the machine to control the tests and report results was unnecessarily complicated to the point of being impractical. GTI turned to ADMET to bring their machine up to speed.

Solution

GTI chose ADMET’s MTESTQuattro materials testing system to solve their challenges. This solution was recommended to GTI by their testing machine calibration source, Cal-Rite Corporation. The MTESTQuattro system was determined to be cost-effective and efficient to use. Unlike other test systems, MTESTQuattro came with all of the core tests included.

An ADMET engineer came to GTI’s facility to demonstrate MTESTQuattro capabilities, install the system, and train GTI’s technicians.

Results

Mr. Spiller is very happy with ADMET’s MTESTQuattro testing system. “We don’t make decisions just on cost but on value. ADMET won on both counts,” said Mr. Spiller. “ADMET walked us through everything. They helped us set up some of our own tests so when they left, we already had many of our tests programmed in for us. That saved us a lot of time and was a great value-added service.”

The new system has allowed GTI to improve their overall efficiency. Technicians were able to come up to speed on the new system faster than on the old Tinius Olsen system. The ADMET platform allowed GTI technicians to set up more complex tests and increased the lab’s throughput on routine tests, allowing them to test more pieces in a shorter length of time.

As an added benefit, MTESTQuattro also helped GTI receive accreditation from the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation.