

# Hot Tapping Saves System Downtime, Inconvenience and Money

*This article explains the basic process of hot tapping and its invaluable benefits for your customers.*

**H**ot tapping involves the use of specialized equipment and highly trained technicians, who cut a hole

into an existing pipe containing a liquid or steam while the pipe is still under pressure and in service. "Hot tapping allows for the addition of new branches without disruption of flow or leakage," explains Wayne Chuck, president of N-Two Cryogenics Inc. based in Concord, Ontario.

"For example," he continues, "shutting down the system of a process plant might involve closing one or more production units for hours—maybe even for days or longer. The plant owner is looking at lost-production time plus the cost to bring the system back on-line."

## When to Consider Hot Tapping

N-Two and their team of cryogenic experts perform hot tapping for contractors when:

- 1) A commercial building needs a branch line added to an existing line and shutting down the system is not an option.
- 2) A bypass line has to be established before the main shutoff valve can be changed or serviced, so two hot taps

could be done on either side of the main shut-off to provide a temporary or permanent bypass loop in the system.

## Hot Tapping Procedure

In a basic run-through of the process, Chuck explains to contractors: "We connect our hot tap machine to the valve and proceed to cut a hole through the valve. The hot tap compartment fills, air is released and the valve is closed off. Now a new service connection can be installed."

"Our hot tapping equipment is capable handling piping systems in a variety of materials from cast iron, stainless steel, copper, brass and plastics from one-inch to 12-inch pipe diameter pipes. As well as a variety of high pressure systems," Chuck adds.



N-Two Owner, Wayne Chuck demonstrates their cryogenic pipe freezing services for contractors at CIPHEX show in Toronto.



N-Two Hot Tapping equipment is set-up to perform live hot tap on a mechanical piping system.

## Advantages of Hot Tapping

- Avoids draining the system
- No major disruption to daily operations
- Less sediment is disturbed within the pipeline
- Faster, less costly repairs and shorter downtime
- Saves time, money, and inconvenience

To do a hot-tapping service, N-Two likes to be brought in as soon as a problem is detected. "We have to access the feasibility of a particular operation and provide design considerations associated with the proposed operation and a cost estimate" advises Chuck.

## Avoid Shutdowns and Draining! Call The Pipe Freezing and Hot Tapping Experts

- We freeze pipes from 1/2" to 48" diameter
- We freeze all type of pipes; copper, steel, iron, lead & plastic
- We freeze liquids including; water, antifreeze, brine, organic solvents and some oils
- We Hot Tap pipes from 1" to 12" diameter



Unit 1 - 117 Planchet Road  
Concord, ON, L4K 2C6  
1-888-410-6487  
www.n-two.com



3454168

Visit us at Construct Canada show  
Dec. 1 - 3, 2010 **Booth #3025**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** For more information, contact N-Two Cryogenics Inc. Toll Free: 1-888-410-6487 or visit their website [www.n-two.com](http://www.n-two.com) for more information on hot tapping and pipe freezing solutions.