



**RELIABILITY  
SERVICES**

# **Tribological Reliability in Turbomachinery**

## **Predictive and Proactive Maintenance**

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Lubmat 2016, Bilbao

# Importance of Lubrication

# The importance of lubrication

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# The importance of lubrication

	20/17	19/16	18/15	17/14	16/13	15/12.	14/11.	13/10.	12/9.	11/8.	10/7.										
26/23	5	3	7	3.5	9	4	>10	5	>10	6	>10	7.5	>10	9	>10	>10	>10	>10	>10	>10	>10
	4	2.5	4.5	3	6	3.5	6.5	4	7.5	5	8.5	6.5	10	7	>10	9	>10	10	>10	>10	>10
25/22	4	2.5	5	3	7	3.5	9	4	>10	5	>10	6	>10	7	>10	9	>10	>10	>10	>10	>10
	3	2	3.5	2.5	4.5	3	5	3.5	6.5	4	8	5	9	6	10	7.5	>10	9	>10	>10	>10
24/21	3	2	4	2.5	6	3	7	4	9	5	>10	6	>10	7	>10	8	>10	10	>10	>10	>10
	2.5	1.5	3	2	4	2.5	5	3	6.5	4	7.5	5	8.5	6	9.5	7	>10	8	>10	10	>10
23/20	2	1.5	3	2	4	2.5	5	3	7	3.5	9	4	>10	5	>10	6	>10	8	>10	9	>10
	1.7	1.3	2.3	1.5	3	2	3.7	2.5	5	3	6	3.5	7	4	8	5	10	6.5	>10	8.5	>10
22/19	1.6	1.3	2	1.6	3	2	4	2.5	5	3	7	3.5	8	4	>10	5	>10	6	>10	7	>10
	1.4	1.1	1.8	1.3	2.3	1.7	3	2	3.5	2.5	4.5	3	5.5	3.5	7	4	8	5	10	5.5	>10
21/18	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4	2.5	5	3	7	3.5	9	4	>10	5	>10	7	>10
	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.4	2.2	1.6	3	2	3.5	2.5	4.5	3	5	3.5	7	4	9	5.5	10
20/17			1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4	2.5	5	3	7	4	9	5	>10	7	>10
			1.2	1.05	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.4	2.3	1.7	3	2	3.5	2	4	2	3	2	3	2	3
19/16					1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4	2	3	2	3.5	2.5	5	3.5	7
					1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.5	2.2	1.7	3	2	3.5	2.5	5	3.5	7	4.5	9
18/15							1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4	2.5	5	3	7	4.5	>10
							1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.5	2.3	1.7	3	2	3.5	2.5	5.5	3.7	8
17/14									1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4	2.5	6	3	8
									1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.5	2.3	1.7	3	2	4	2.5	6
16/13											1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4	3.5	6
											1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.5	2.3	1.8	3.7	3	4.5
15/12.		Máquinas Hidráulicas y Motores	Rodamientos										1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	2	1.7	3	2	4
													1.2	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.5	2.3	1.8	3
14/11.		Chumaceras y Turbomaquinaria	Cajas de Engranajes y otros												1.3	1.3	1.6	1.6	2	1.8	3
															1.3	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.9	1.5	2.3
13/10.																	1.4	1.2	1.8	1.5	2.5
																	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.4	1.8

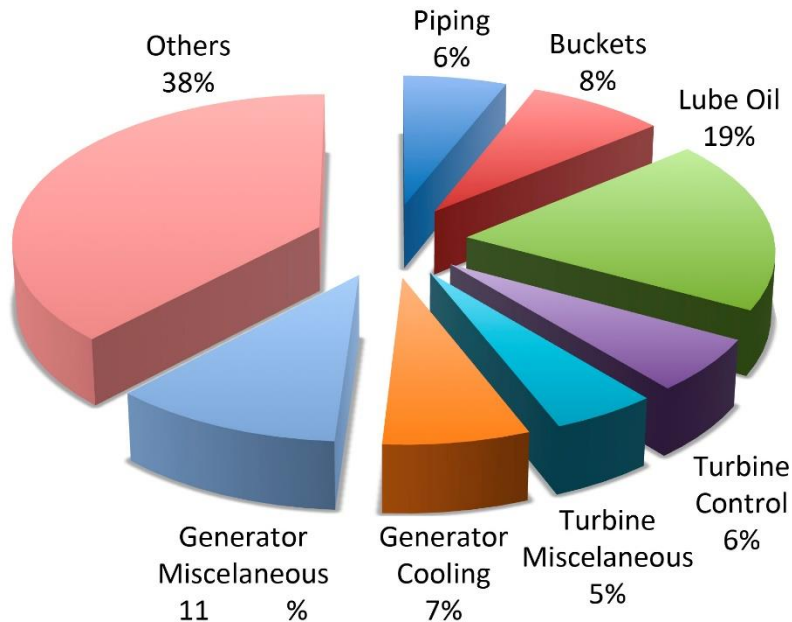
3x Bearing Life Extension

COLFAX

RELIABILITY SERVICES

# Reliability and Lubrication

# Reliability and Lubrication. Turbines



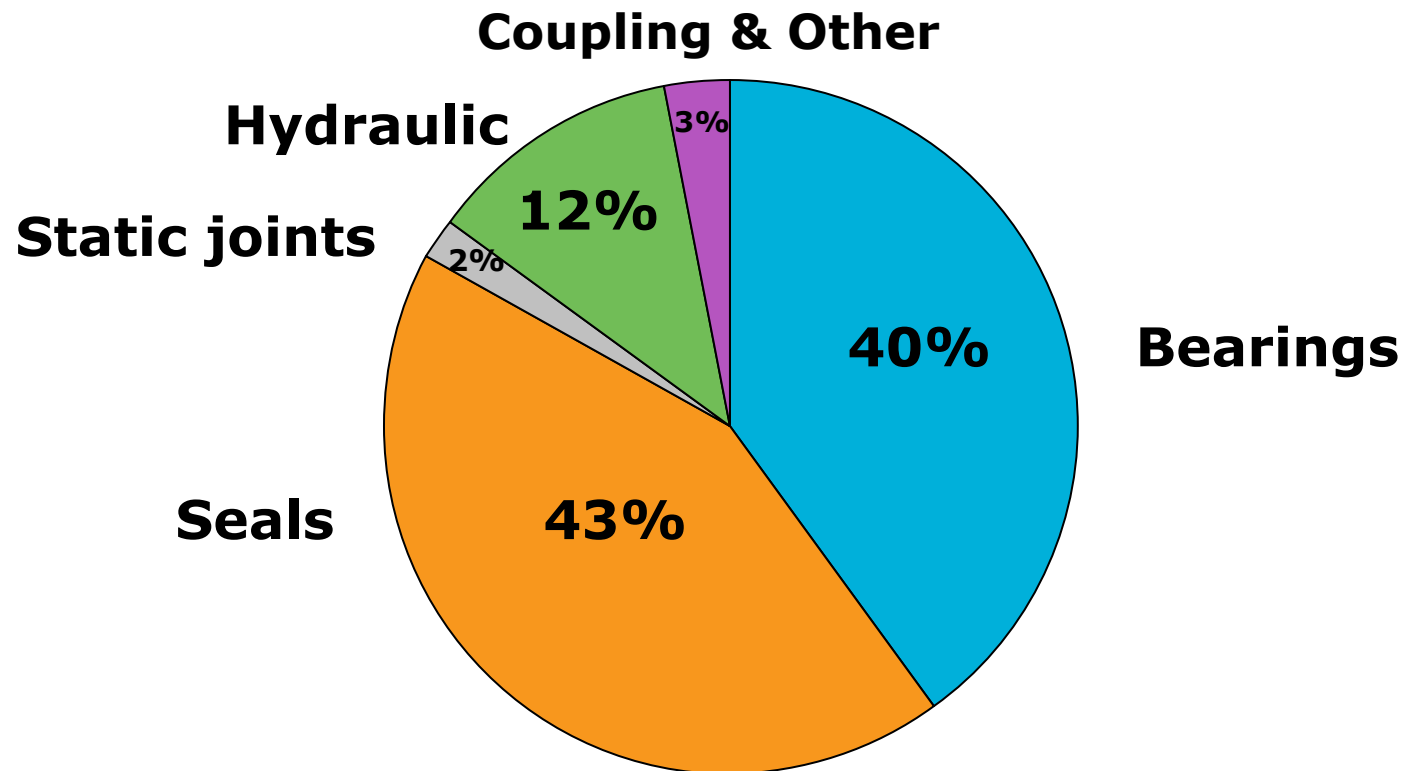
**F**or any power generation facility, the turbine is considered the lifeblood of the operation. Any problem requiring an unexpected shutdown of the main turbine is likely to cause a significant unplanned outage, potentially resulting in millions of dollars of downtime costs. According to a 1991 study by General Electric (GE), turbines contribute on average 20 percent of all forced outages in a conventional power plant. Among this 20 percent, GE noted that 19 percent of turbine/generator problems were associated with the lube oil system. For this reason, monitoring turbine oils has become commonplace in the power generation industry.

<http://www.machinerylubrication.com/Read/300/turbine-oil-performance>

- 1 out of 5 failures in Turbines is associated with the lube oil system.
- Oil changes cost is less than 5% of total cost of failure!

# Reliability and Lubrication. Pumps

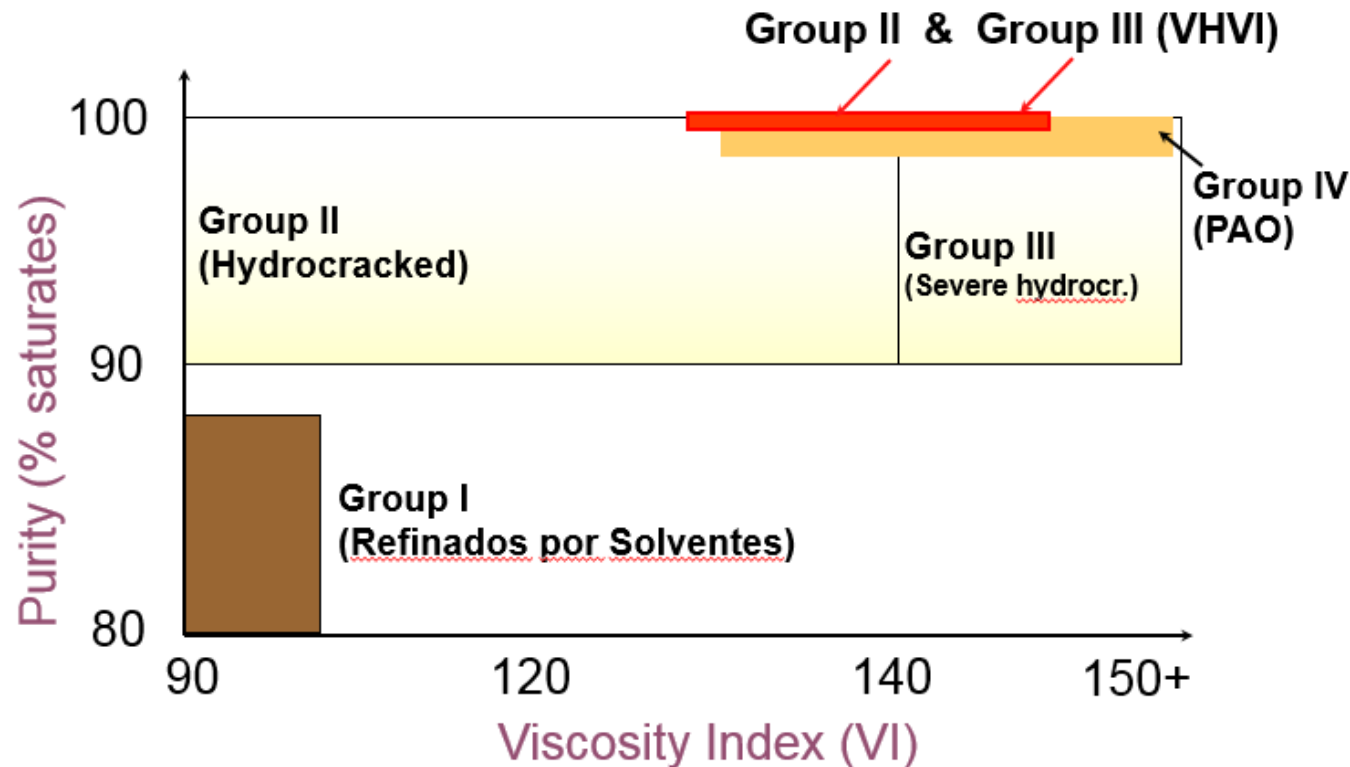
**Over 80% of pump failures attributed to bearing and seal failures**



# Reliability Strategies

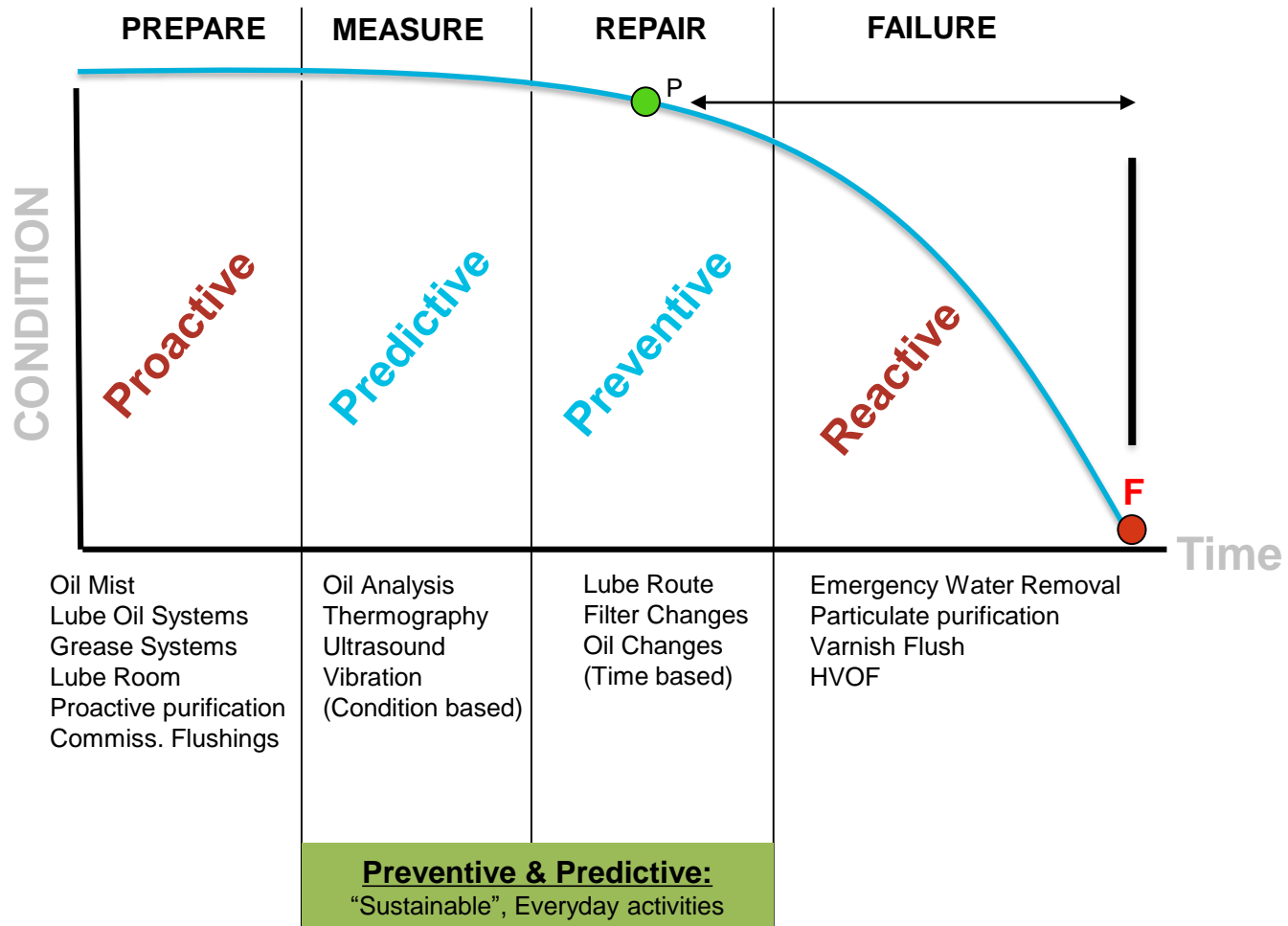


# Selecting the right base oil. API Groups



- Resistance to oxidation
- Water and Air Separation
- Thermal stability

# The Reliability Opportunity



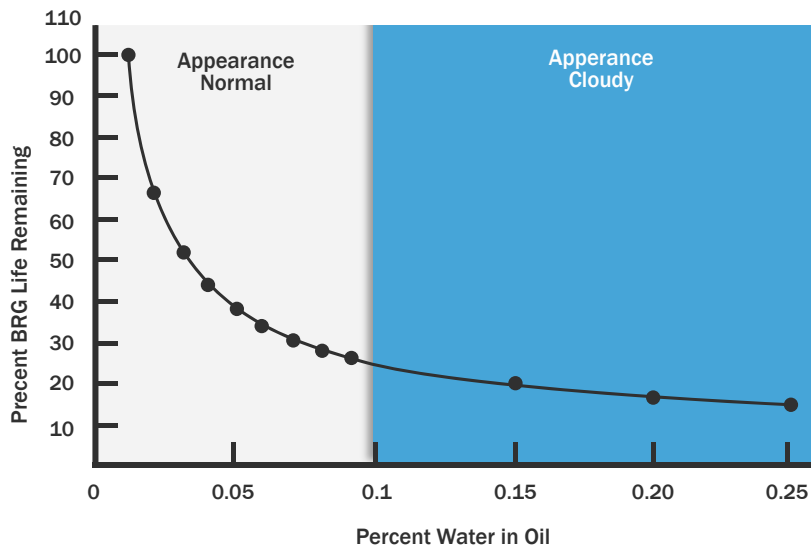
# Contamination Control Services



# Oil Purification

- Increases customer machinery reliability, reducing failure due to poor lubricant condition
- Eliminates the need for oil changes by maintaining “like-new” oil
- Reduces potential wear and breakdown due to mechanical simplicity and fewer moving parts
- Reduces particle filtration
- Eliminates the need for new oil purchases and reduces oil inventories

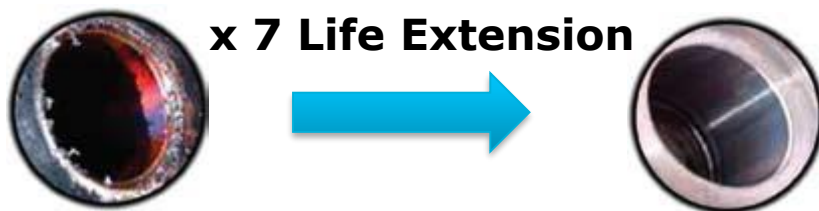
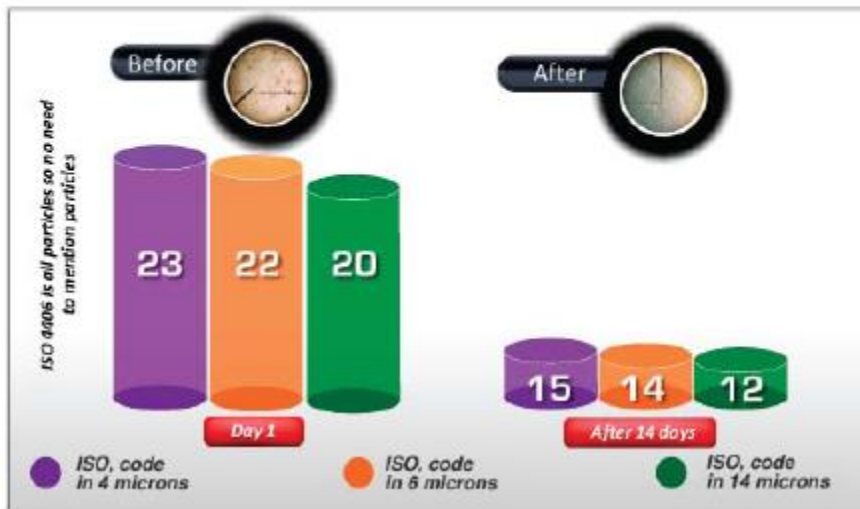
- Minimizes utility requirements; only electrical power required for water removal, or a nitrogen supply for degassing



# High Speed Oil Flushing Goals

## Objectives

### Cleaning of Lubrication and Control Systems (High Speed Oil Flushing & Cleaning).®



**Reliability:** Assure the removal of all particles from the system to reduce risks during equipment start-up and prevent severe premature failure. A higher circulating flow rate in the Flushing and better quality filter elements, result in greater reliability.

**Availability:** To finish the cleaning in the least possible time, in order to make the equipment available faster and reduce programmed down-time. The Flushing is carried out according to ASTM D-6439-05 standard, which positively impacts the Availability of the Equipment, Increasing Quality Production.



# High Speed Oil Flushing Features

Turbulent Regime → Reynolds Number  $Re > 4000$

**Dirt, contamination & deposits on the inner side of the pipe wall**

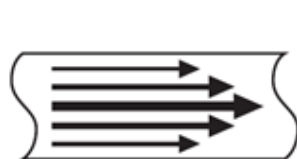
$$Re = 21,200 \times Q / (\gamma \times d)$$

Q – System Flow (l/min)

$\gamma$  – Kinematic Viscosity (cSt, mm<sup>2</sup>/s)

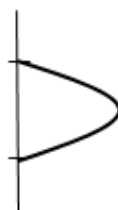
d – System Inner Diameter (mm)

**Lube system → Laminar Flow → Reynolds Number  $Re < 2000$**



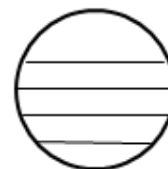
Laminar flow

$Re < 2000$



Velocity Profile

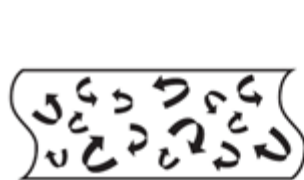
Speed = 0 on inner side of pipe wall



Cross sectional view

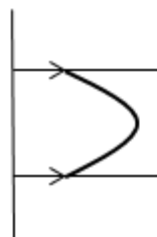
Contact Surface < 100%

**External Equipment → Turbulent Flow → Reynolds Number  $Re \gg 4000$**



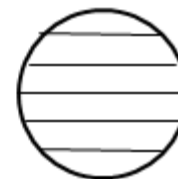
Turbulent flow

$Re > 4000$



Velocity Profile

Speed > 0 on inner side of pipe wall



Cross sectional view

Contact Surface = 100%



# Oil Analysis

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- Select critical equipment
- Select frequency
- Define alarm limits
- Consider sampling points

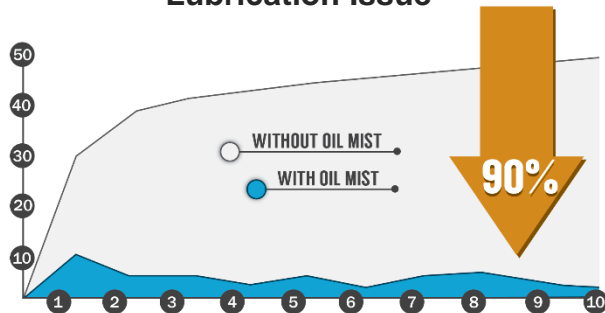
# Oil Mist Systems

> 100,000 pumps worldwide

Piping Distribution System

Equipment Applications

# of Pump Repairs Due to Bearing Lubrication Issue



Two Similar Olefins Plants, Each with 200 Pumps



# Case Studies. Benefits

# Case Study. Oil Purification Before Program.

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## **Average conditions of oil lubricant in more than 30 Gas Turbines in Gulf of México.**

1. High Varnish Potential due to high presence of particles that causes high temperatures in the oil lubricant.
2. Presence of H<sub>2</sub>S from the seal system. This gas contaminates the oil decreasing its viscosity and flash point.
3. High presence of particles. ISO 4406 high values as 23/19/15.  
**Average. 20/17/12.**
4. Water content average around 250 ppm.
5. Oil lubricant is changed every 3 years average.

# Case Study. Oil Purification After Program.

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## **Average conditions of oil lubricant in more than 30 Gas Turbines in Gulf of México.**

1. Low Varnish Potential in the oil lubricant. Temperatures of bearings have decreased 5 ° C.
2. Lower presence of gases. Flash Point at normal values.
3. Lower presence of particles. **Average. 16/14/11.**
4. Water content average around 50 ppm.
5. Oil Change frequency extended.

# Oil Purification Benefits

Ítem	Before	After	Result
Oil Change Frequency	Around 3-5 years	Estimated 5-10 years	Savings in 10 kUSD/year/turbine
Varnish Potential	Medium-High	Low	Increased reliability
Gas Present	Medium-High	Low	Increased reliability and safety
Particle Count (ISO)	High 20/17/12	Low 16/14/11	Increased bearing life x 1.8
Water Content	Low 250 ppm	Very Low 50 ppm	Increased bearing life x 1.6

Estimated viable improvements

# Oil Purification. Estimated Oil Savings

1	Reservoir capacity	→	Lts	5.000
2	Hourly manpower costs	→		30 €/h
3	Oil cost per litre (direct and indirect)	→		3 Lt/h
4	Yearly oil changes without Purifier	→		1
5	Yearly oil changes with Purifier	→		0,20
6	Disposable oil (48 weeks, 70 Lts/wk)	→	Lts	3.360
7	Manpower dedicated to drain (48 weeks, 5h/week)	→		240 h
8	Manpower for a proper oil change	→		20 h
9	Oil Savings thanks to Purifier ( $A1 \cdot (A4 - A5) + A6$ )	→	Lts	7.360
10	Oil Savings ( $A9 \cdot A3$ )	→	€	22.80
11	Manpower Savings ( $A2 \cdot A7 + A8 \cdot (A4 - A5)$ )	→	€	7.216
12	Oil related Total Savings ( $A10 + A11$ )	→	€	29.296

# Oil purification. Filter savings

1	Filter changes without Purifier (3 times a year)	→	3/yr
2	Filter changes with Purifier (once every 2 years)	→	0,5/yr
3	Manpower cost for filter changes	→	€ 800
4	Savings for filter changes ( $B3*(B1-B2)$ )	→	€ 2.000

# Oil purification. Repairs savings

1	Important repairs without Purifier (once/3yr)	→	0,33/yr
2	Important repairs with Purifier (once/5yr)	→	0,2/yr
3	Dedicated manpower (including inspection, calibration...)	→	300 h
4	Important reparis manpower costs (C3*A2)	→	€ 9.000
5	Spare parts per repair	→	€ 10.000
6	Production loss per outage day	→	€ 100.000
7	Manpower savings for repairs (C4*(C1-C2))	→	€ 1.200
8	Spare parts savings (C5*(C1-C2))	→	€ 1.333
9	Production loss savings (C6*(C1-C2))	→	€ 13.333
10	Total savings for better reliability (C7+C8+C9)	→	€ 15.867

# Oil Purification. Total savings

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A – Oil Savings	→	€ 29.296
B – Filter element savings	→	€ 2.000
C – Repair savings	→	€ 15.867

**Yearly benefit**

**€ 47.163**



# Flushing Benefits. Allocating costs

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## Define three types of failure that might occur during the start-up of a turbine following scheduled maintenance

- a. **Minor failure.** The post start-up check finds blocked filters, which must be replaced during the first two weeks.

**Cost of 10,000 EUR** per equipment item.

- a. **Significant failure.** The post start-up check finds vibrations, resulting in lowered loads for a couple of weeks while controls are carried out.

**Cost of 150,000 EUR**

- a. **Catastrophic failure.** The post start-up check discovers a bearing interference event resulting in a total outage and the need to change bearings. This results in 3 days of additional maintenance.

**Cost of 3,400,000 EUR**

# Flushing Benefits. Allocate probabilities

Start-up failure	Conventional Flushing	ASTM Flushing
No failure occurs	45%	60%
Minor failure	40%	30%
Significant failure	10%	8%
Catastrophic failure	5%	2%

Flushing procedure	Cost of Failure
Conventional	$10.000 \times 0,4 + 150.000 \times 0,1 + 3.400.000 \times 0,05 = 189.000$
ASTM	$10.000 \times 0,3 + 150.000 \times 0,08 + 3.400.000 \times 0,02 = 83.000$
Benefit	106.000 EUR per item modified

# Oil Mist. MTBF Evolution after installation

## Increased MBTF for a Topping unit with Oil Mist

