

Adapted for
Wind Power Management class
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**Oil Debris Condition Monitoring
For Wind Turbine Gearboxes**

Presented by : Richard Dupuis

AWEA Wind Power Asset Management Workshop
January 2008, San Diego, CA

Making Machinery More Effective

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Corporate Profile



- Advanced products and services for Machinery Condition Assessment and Control
- Supplier of **MetalSCAN** Oil Debris Monitoring technology since 1995
- Aviation, Defense, Energy and Marine sectors
- Founded in 1979
- Four locations:
 - Ottawa, Ontario (head office)
 - Halifax, Nova Scotia (field office)
 - Victoria, British Columbia (field office)
 - Pensacola, Florida (GasTOPS, Inc.)



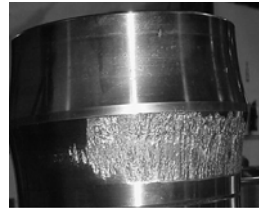
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What's the Problem ?



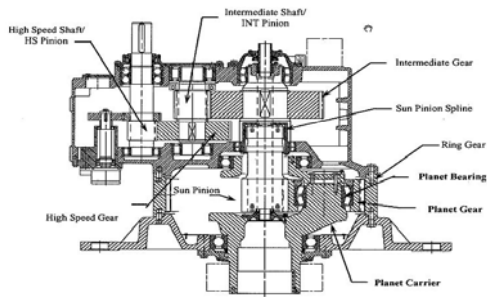
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Gearbox Failures



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Typical Wind Turbine Gearbox Arrangement



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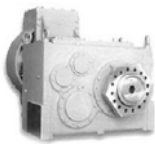
Overview

- How can the problem be managed
- Condition Monitoring Theory & Feasibility
- Oil Debris Monitoring (ODM) method - principle of operation
- Why Bearings & Gears Fail
- Validation of ODM method for condition monitoring

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How to deal with the problem ?



- Conduct root cause investigations of gearbox problems
- Continue to make design modifications to gearboxes and their system interfaces
- Operators/owners must seek solutions to manage the problem

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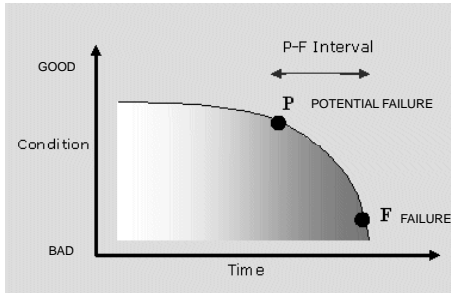
How can the problem be managed ?

- **Adopt Condition Monitoring (CM)**
- **Avoid "Failure" Event**
 - Contain the damage
 - Reduce repair time & costs significantly
- **Minimize Business Interruption**
 - Schedule repair support on-site before shutdown
 - Minimize lost revenue & penalties

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Condition Monitoring Theory : P-F Curve



- Need to have a: 'Condition Indicator' (CI)

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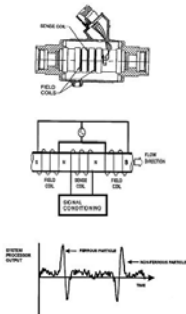
CM Technical Feasibility Criteria

- CI must detect the potential failure (P)
- CI must identify the degree of damage towards failure (F)
- P-F interval must provide adequate time for the organization to proactively plan
- P-F curve must be consistent for the failure mode

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Oil Debris Monitoring (ODM) - Principle of Operation



- Sensor includes 3-coil assembly
- Metallic debris from bearing or gearbox sump flows past the field coils creating a disturbance signal in the sense coil
- Signal characteristics define:
 - particle size based upon signal amplitude
 - type (Fe or NFe) based upon signal direction

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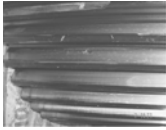
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How does ODM satisfy
the CM criteria ?

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Why Bearings/Gears Fail?



- Most bearings/gears are damaged in-service due to stress concentrations that arise from:
 - Physical / dimensional discrepancies -
....*Misapplication, Mishandling, Defects*
 - Overrolling of debris -
....*Contaminants in lube oil*
 - Corrosion pitting -
....*Chemical interactions*

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Validation of ODM method

- Bearing and Gear component damage - research data
- Engine and Gearbox damage - rig test data
- Fielded Applications damage – field data

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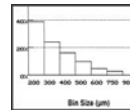
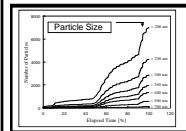


Bearing and Gear Component Damage Research

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Bearing Damage Research (NRC)



- Rig data from over 40 bearings (2" to 18" in diameter; ball and roller)
- **Observations:**
 - Early damage is series of 'particle bursts'
 - Later damage is more progressive
 - ...Rate is dependent on load and speed
 - ...Quantity is dependent on size of bearing
 - Particle size distribution is independent of bearing size
- **Conclusions:**
 - **Quantity** correlates to 'degree of damage'
 - **Quantity + Rate** correlates to 'remaining life'

Reference document: 'Rolling Element Bearing Failure Detection with ODM (Oil Debris Monitor) On-line Oil Debris Sensor', NRCC doc. – IMR-MCM-CTR-020

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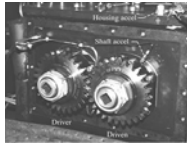
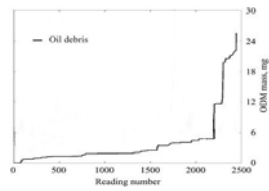


Gear Damage Research (NASA)

- Seeded fault test data from gear rig monitored by ODM



Increasing damage on gear tooth

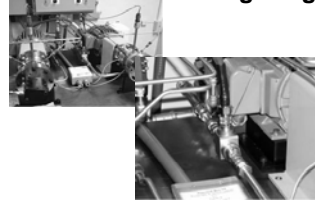


Reference document: "Integrating Oil Debris and Vibration Gear Damage Detection Technologies Using Fuzzy Logic"; NASA/TM-2002-211126



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Bearing Prognostics Research (AFRL)

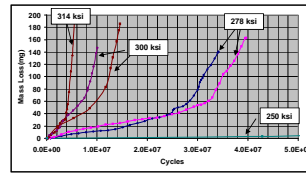


- Seeded fault test on bearing test rig
- 52100 and M50NiL bearing steels
- ODM used to monitor debris quantity

AFRL Observations-

- Higher stress = quicker damage progression
- Mass loss is repeatable for constant stress

Reference document: "ISHM presentation by Dr. Nelson Forester, Aug 11/05"

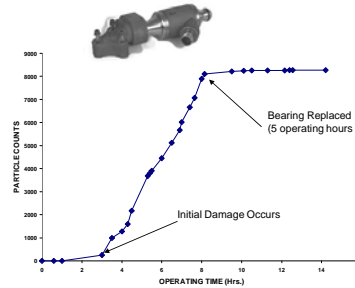


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Engine and Gearbox Damage Rig Tests

Gas Turbine F119 (F22 Aircraft) Bearing Damage – Test Data (P&W)



- New engine run on test stand
- Damage due to mis-assembly
- Bearing highly overstressed
- NO SECONDARY DAMAGE occurred

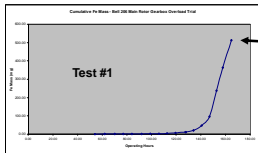


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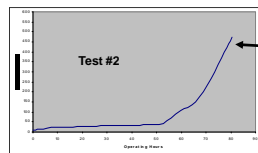
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Bell 206 Helicopter Gearbox Bearing Damage – Test Data (DSTO)



- Rig test of two B206 main rotor gearboxes at DSTO test facility
- 150% overload stress test
- Test #1 & 2 teardowns showed damage limited to planet bearing

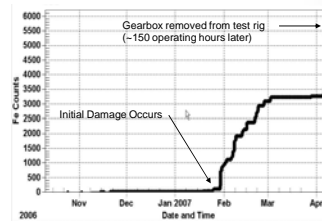
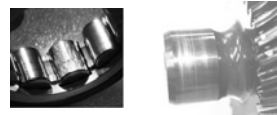


Data is presented by permission from the Australian Defense Science & Technology Organization



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Apache Helicopter Gearbox Bearing Damage – Test Data (NAVAIR)



- Rig test of AH-64 drive-train at US Navy Patuxent River transmission test facility
- 200 hour high stress component qualification test
- Gearbox ran for ~50 hrs with only small quantity of build debris detected
- No chip detector alarm
- Teardown confirmed damage limited to input shaft bearing



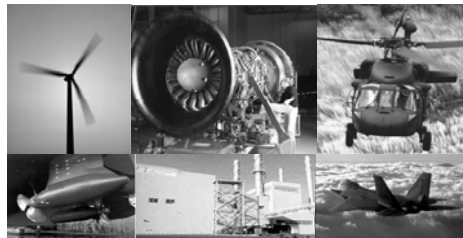
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Fielded Applications Damage Experience



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Proven Oil Debris Monitoring (ODM) Applications for Rotating Equipment



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Facts about the Equipment Bearing and Gear Damage

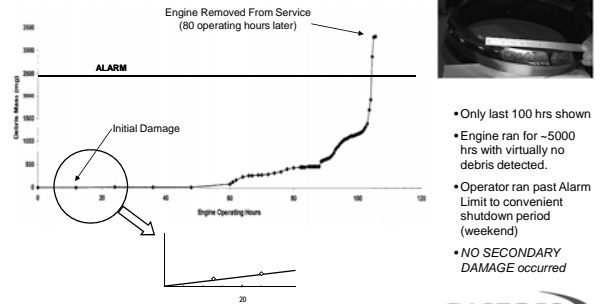


- Rotating Equipment suffer bearing or gear events periodically, often without warning.
- Depending upon the equipment application the cost of each undetected event can be in the hundreds of \$000.
- Experience shows that damage develops progressively over time.... days, weeks or months from initiation to failure, depending upon the equipment type.
- Operators/owners require early detection solutions to **Proactively Manage** the event and **Avoid the Failure**.



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Gas Turbine FT8 (JT8D derivative) Bearing Damage – Field Data

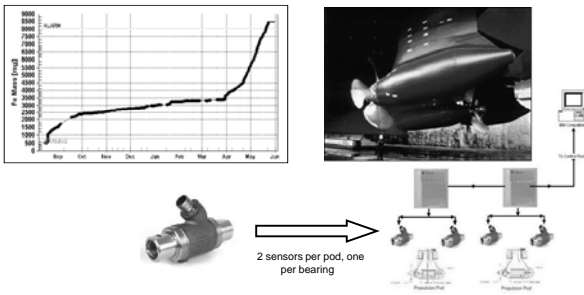


- Only last 100 hrs shown
- Engine ran for ~5000 hrs with virtually no debris detected.
- Operator ran past Alarm Limit to convenient shutdown period (weekend)
- **NO SECONDARY DAMAGE** occurred



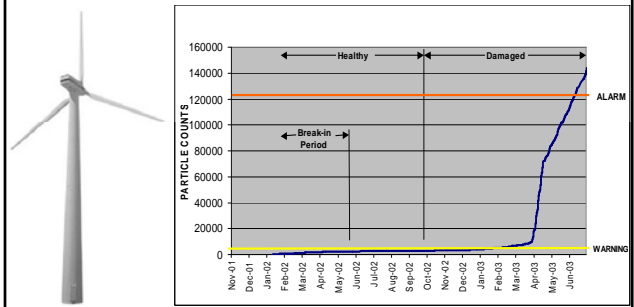
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Marine Propulsion Pod Bearing Damage - Field Data



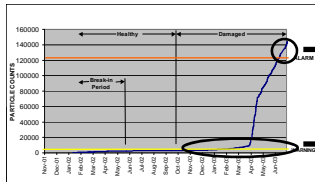
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Wind Turbine Gearbox Damage – Field Data



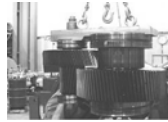
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History of a Failure - At Removal



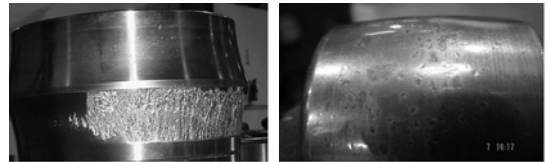
140,000 total particles counted
1,500 particles/day in later stages

8 months operation from
detection of initial damage to
removal



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History of a Failure - Planetary Stage Bearing Damage



Inner Race

Roller

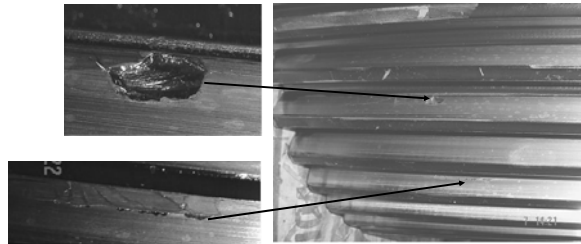
Damage limited to:

- one planetary stage bearing &
- one planetary stage gear



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History of a Failure – Planetary Stage Gear Tooth Damage



Damage limited to:

- one planetary stage bearing &
- one planetary stage gear



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Summary



- ODM has been proven to be a technically feasible condition indicator of damage for bearings and gears
- ODM provides an EARLY indication of damage and quantifies the SEVERITY and RATE of damage progression towards failure
- ODM is interpreted easily as a condition indicator to answer 2 essential questions:
 - Can the machine be operated ?
 - If so, for how long ?



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