



Rightrax Online Corrosion/Erosion Monitoring Now Supported in System 1* Software

In industries where the integrity of piping, vessels, and other fixed assets can be compromised by corrosion or erosion, the consequences of failure can be both serious and costly. Historically, time-based, manual inspection methods have been employed to mitigate these risks; unfortunately, this is a very costly approach, frequently involving excavation, scaffolding, special permits, and other expenses. As a result, the annual maintenance costs for assets relying on manual inspection methods are among the highest in the operation.

GE's Rightrax system solves these problems using innovative online technology that eliminates the need for costly, time-based inspections while simultaneously providing better, more timely, and more frequent corrosion/erosion information that dramatically decreases the risk of asset failure. With ROI for the Rightrax system typically less than a year, the economics of going "online" are compelling. And with support for the Rightrax system now available in System 1 software, going "online" has never been easier or more powerful.

How it works

Developed by GE's Sensing & Inspection Technologies division, the Rightrax system uses non-invasive, ultrasonic sensing technology that attaches to the outside of the asset and measures wall thickness. Rightrax sensors can be polled periodically, allowing users to assess not only useful life remaining by comparing current values to minimum thickness limits, but to establish historical trends. This ability to trend data is extremely powerful and sets it apart from even the most frequent manual inspection regimens. The benefits are two-fold:

First, users can understand the rate at which corrosion/erosion is progressing, allowing better maintenance planning. Second, users can correlate Rightrax data with process data, providing powerful insight into cause-effect relationships that can help operators understand and avoid the conditions that accelerate corrosion/erosion rates and corresponding asset degradation.

Integration: 1+1=3

Many facilities already rely on System 1 software to manage the condition of their rotating machinery assets. Ironically, many of the fixed assets in these same facilities warrant online corrosion/erosion monitoring. Previously, this meant two separate software systems with attendant user interfaces, databases, IT support costs, and learning curves. By providing support for the Rightrax system in System 1 software, users can now manage both rotating and non-rotating assets in a single system, eliminating the costs and complexities of learning, using, and maintaining two separate software platforms.

Integration also provides Rightrax users with all the powerful capabilities native to System 1 software for displaying, trending, analyzing, plotting, and correlating data. It provides powerful import/export functionality for integration with reporting tools and programs, such as Crystal Reports® and Microsoft® Excel®. But what truly sets the power of the System 1 environment apart is its decision support technology: powerful automation capabilities that can automatically analyze data using sophisticated, user-written rules and embedded knowledge. When specific conditions, or even anomalies of an unknown origin are detected, the system can send intelligent advisories to appropriate personnel.

Learn more by contacting your nearest GE sales professional specializing in Bently Nevada Asset Condition Monitoring solutions or by visiting www.ge-energy.com/bently and entering "Rightrax" in the search box to navigate to our Rightrax landing page. You can also request hardcopies of Rightrax literature via the Reader Service Card in this issue of ORBIT. 

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The High Cost of Corrosion...

In the oil and gas industry alone, corrosion- and erosion-related losses total billions of dollars every year through unscheduled plant or pipeline shutdowns, lost production, high repair costs, and imposed fines. In addition, incalculable damage can result from potential employee injuries and the effect of spillage on an organization's reputation.

