

# Q&A

## VIBRATION MONITORING AT POWER PLANTS

Vibration can generally be an early indication of a potential machine failure. Unbalance, misalignment, loose parts, bad bearings and gear damage are just a few of the conditions that can be diagnosed by analyzing vibration data, and early detection is the best defense against unplanned downtime and costly breakdowns.



### Will they be looking for "protection" or "alarm only"?

The answer here will dictate if we go with a true API rated protection system, like the IMx-M, or if we go with a condition monitoring system like the IMx-8.

### What do they want to do with the vibration data coming from the device?

i.e. the IMx-8 provides overall vibration and alarm information via modbus into their DCS. Additionally, it can send the high resolution waveform data into SKF's @plitude software for more in depth analysis.

### Does the machines already have vibration mounting locations prepared on the bearings?

Often times, even though a machine might not currently have anything installed on it, they will still be ready to accept

### Are the bearings "sleeve style" or "rolling element"?

Proximity sensors are best suited for sleeve bearings and accelerometers are better suited for rolling element bearings. Proximity sensors take significant design and machine modification to install vs accelerometers only need a small surface area machined and drilled. In general, prox sensors have to be installed during a major outage while accels can be installed much easier while the machine is offline.

### What level of services will they need?

We have the ability to manage the entire project and provide drawings. Also, we can just come in and do the configuration of the systems after the customer installs them. We are flexible here and can work on any other vibration systems that they may have installed (i.e. Bently Nevada, Emerson, etc...)

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