

Orbit Magazine

Meet GE's Bently Nevada product Line MDS Team!

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GE's Bently Nevada product line Machinery Diagnostic Services (MDS) was introduced in 1972, with Ron Bosman as the first MDS engineer. There are now 135 engineers worldwide representing the MDS team's over one thousand years of accumulated experience, and more than 18,000 MDS project completed.

Each year, the MDS team meets at Bently Nevada's Minden manufacturing site to share best practices and lessons learned. This year's meeting was attended by the MDS technical leaders from across the globe. The meeting started with a joint session with Field Application Engineering (FAE) team, hosted by Art Eunson, former General Manager of Bently Nevada; Terry Knight, current General Manager of Bently Nevada; and Erik Lindhjem, Bently Nevada's Software Product Line Leader.

Orbit Magazine

During the week, each leader presented technical topics with real case histories, including topics such as torsional vibration, alignment, gearboxes, balancing, and reciprocating compressors. Each leader, apart from having more than 20 years of experience in the field of rotating machinery, is also an expert in a specific field, such as steam turbines, gas turbines, balancing, aero-machine, and gearboxes

Rob Winter from the training department, a former MDS engineer with more than 37 years of experience, presented the new certification program, called MDS Academy, and updated versions of Bently Nevada's Training courses: Applied Diagnostic Workshop, Advanced Machinery Dynamics, ADRE 408, Structural Vibration and Balancing Workshops.

During the week, most of the product line leaders presented the new technologies and the last versions of our software and hardware. Key hardware showcased were the new SCOUT200 IS and torque sensor. Ryan Roaldson demonstrated new System 1 capabilities and the whole team was very impressed by the latest updates to Bently Nevada's key software system.

On the reciprocating compressor side, key successes were highlighted by both our European (Thorsten Bickman) and North American (Stephen Plaisance) teams, concerning our Remote Diagnostics Contracts.

David Mc Nelly, Global Leader for Service Support Agreement, presented on Bently Nevada's main remote contracts, leading to a great discussion on the future of our MDS engineers and the need to continue to develop our condition monitoring capabilities and knowledge.

The MDS team continues to learn and grow through these annual meetings, which help to provide critical hands-on knowledge through the team's experiences with customers. If you have any questions about the MDS team, or would like to learn more about our services, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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