



Tip Of The Week

May 7, 2012

Tools vs. Solutions

Sometimes predictive maintenance technologies are used as tools, not always solutions. By definition a Tool is a device that aids in accomplishing a task, whereas a Solution is an action or process in solving a problem. Problems will arise, and the earlier the problematic condition is identified the less expensive it is to correct. The question then is whether or not the tool identifies the problem. Tools can perform tasks but if the person using the tool is not solution oriented then the data derived from the tool will not be utilized properly to prevent a future catastrophic failure within the plant. Establishing an education plan and building a data analysis and communication process around a predictive tool can turn the tool into a solution. Applying this strategy creates a proactive culture within the plant and combined with operational, design, procurement, installation, and storage practices ensures the success of the plant.

Sources: *Mirriam-Webster Dictionary* and *Making Common Sense Common Practice: Models for Manufacturing Excellence* by Ron Moore.

You are invited to submit an Electric Motor Testing Tip of your own and receive a free PdMA mug or hat if we publish it! Contact Lou at 813-621-6463 ext. 126 or lou@pdma.com.

Copyright 2012 PdMA Corporation. All rights reserved. The PdMA Tip of the Week is produced by PdMA. PdMA shall not be liable for any errors or delays in the content, or for any actions taken in reliance thereon.