PdMA CORPORATION A Leader in Electric Motor Testing

Tip Of The Week

January 7, 2013

Troubleshoot a Tripping Motor

Analyzing peak transient inrush current is a standard approach to troubleshooting a tripping motor. An instantaneous trip would indicate a stator or trip set point anomaly. An overload/time delay trip would indicate more of a mechanical load/rotor driven anomaly. The In-Rush/Start-Up test from PdMA records an RMS enveloped value of current throughout the startup of the electric motor, which is an ideal tool for trending condition variables such as mechanical or electrical anomalies. However, following an instantaneous trip, quantifying the peak current seen by the starter during an inrush transient would require the current signal in a time domain format.

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.