

Tip Of The Week

June 25, 2018

Growler Testing Rotors

Last week we discussed growler testing as a rotor test that can be performed at your motor repair shop. One of our loyal Tip of the Week readers correctly identified that the hack saw blade should stop vibrating over a broken bar, and vibrate over a healthy bar. This makes sense as healthy bars conduct current induced by the growler coil and that alternating rotor bar current in turn creates an alternating magnetic field that vibrates the hack saw blade.

Expanding on the growler testing of squirrel cage rotors, a popular variation from using a hack saw blade is to put magnetic particle paper over the rotor section that the growler coil is inducing current into. A healthy rotor bar that is conducting current will produce a strong magnetic field that attracts the magnetic particles along the length of the rotor bar. If a bar is broken or cracked it will conduct little to no current resulting in little or no magnetic particles collecting around that bar.

To see a growler test and a rotor fault case study visit the PdMA YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/O5OHdC1XojM

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. 166 or lou@pdma.com.

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