February 15, 2016

Don't Miss the Forest

Many of you have heard the phrase *"fail to see the forest through the trees"*. Applying that phrase to reliability, have you ever failed to see the information through the data? More often today we hear about missed opportunities to prevent a failure because the analyst failed to see the information that was available. In the wake of **big data** playing a growing role in plant reliability this will become a bigger problem if we don't plan ahead. Plenty of data is available these days but with limited time and resources to properly digest it. With more data, analysts must spend less time on each data point and can fail to extract the important information. Worse, they may become overwhelmed with collecting, distributing, storing, and archiving data, finding no time to analyze the data. Analysts must identify new methods of prioritizing which portion of the vast amounts of data deserves their full attention. Pareto's principle tells you that 80% of the problems come from 20% of the assets. Analysts need to focus their attention on the 20% without ignoring the 80%. Start with a dashboard approach like the MCEGold® Site Condition window to get a quick overview of the troublemakers and what the latest round of data is saying. Once you have established quality alarm levels based on sound industry standards and have a committed testing schedule based on time and condition, then trust the dashboard window to segregate the bad actors from the good actors. Thereby allowing your analysts to focus the limited time they have on seeing the information through all the data.

For more information on the MCEGold® Site Condition window visit our website at:
http://pdma.com/pdfs/MCEGold_Web_Brochure3.pdf

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.