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Tip Of The Week

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Prioritizing Motor Issues

As a maintenance supervisor you must allocate your resources based on priority of the situation. The same goes when deciding your next step in fixing an issue found during motor testing. For example, during recent online and offline testing you found resistance-to-ground (RTG) had decreased from 100,000 Megohms to 5,000 Megohms, resistive imbalance increased from 0.3% imbalance to 1.4% imbalance, current imbalance increased from 2% to 5%, and voltage imbalance increased from 0.1% to 0.8%. Where would you allocate your resources?

In this case, you may want to consider the resistive imbalance highest priority and allocate resources to investigate the root cause of the resistive imbalance. One possible cause could be a corroded connection (high resistance connection) which may result in increased voltage and current imbalances. Decreased RTG readings may be caused by moisture, although for most situations this may be considered a lower priority than a resistive imbalance when allocating resources.

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.