



Tip Of The Week

July 8, 2013

Average vs. True-RMS Current

There are two types of commonly used current clamp-on meters utilized in the field today, average responding and true-RMS. The average responding meters are most common due to their low cost and acceptable performance on linear load applications. However, in non-linear load applications such as AC or DC drives the average responding meters will read low. When testing non-linear loads it is recommended to use a true-RMS measurement as it indicates the “effective” or “heating” value of the non-linear waveform. Recognizing this recommendation the PdMA EMAX technology performs true-RMS calculations on AC or DC current and utilizes Hall effect current probes when measuring DC current.

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.

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