

Gwinnett County Department of Water

Program Highlights

Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources realigned its organizational structure in 2014 with an objective to identify & perform the right work at the right time, use a team approach to implement initiatives, and create a proactive culture to serve as the “Benchmark for Maintenance & Operational Reliability Excellence” (MORE). Part of the realignment in Facility Operations included focused skills training and certifications for current staff. It also included the formation of a dedicated team of technicians that focus on use of precision and predictive maintenance tools and technology to identify and eliminate defects before failures occur.

As part of the program development, Facility Operations recognized the need to reintroduce alignment fundamentals, training, and precision tools to support and enhance their program. Formal training was conducted in 2015 for half of all trades technicians in Facility Operations, including the PdM team. New alignment systems were purchased for plant maintenance to utilize for installation after repair. The PdM team then began addressing misalignment identified through vibration analysis across all facilities.



Field training for technicians and analysis indicated that not all contractor-installed assets were precision aligned and within tolerance. Some assets that were checked during field training were 30 times tolerance. With thousands of critical rotating assemblies, GCDWR began planning a proactive approach to ensure all critical assets are within tolerance to eliminate bearing, coupling, and belt failures caused by misalignment.

As the implementation of the MORE program increased the efficiency of Facility Operations, more technicians were added to the PdM Team. These additional team members allowed for GCDWR to implement a Proactive Precision Alignment program that targets its most critical rotating assets to ensure they are properly aligned. Phase one of this program includes 255 highly critical rotating assets. Results to date have identified that 48% of all assets inspected were out of alignment, some by as much as 35 times tolerance. The second phase will include several hundred less critical assets and should begin in spring of 2017. Facility Operations plans to continue this program until all critical rotating assets have been inspected for proper alignment.

*Special
Recognition
Award
Best Precision
Alignment
Program*