The 2010 Best Motor Testing Program Award is awarded to Jeffery Brasher of Southern Company. Jeff attributes the success of the motor testing program to the collective efforts of the CBM team and the willingness of plant management to follow the condition-based motor maintenance program that he developed in 1995 at Plant Miller. The condition-based motor maintenance program and motor testing program work hand in hand to achieve the reliability results that have been identified with the performance of Plant Miller. As mentioned in the February 2007 issue of Power Engineering magazine, Plant Miller’s peak season EFOR (equivalent forced outage rate) has been less than one percent for the last ten years. The condition-based motor maintenance program plays a significant part in this success.

Jeff developed the program by identifying motor failure modes and applying condition-based maintenance technologies to address each mode of motor failure. A formal reliability centered maintenance study was performed in 1995 identifying the criticality that each motor attributed to the production of electrical generation. The CBM team utilizes thermography, oil analysis, vibration analysis, ultrasonics and motor diagnostics to identify all types of motor performance issues. The condition-based motor maintenance philosophy has proven to be very successful at Plant Miller. It adheres strictly to the RCM study so that optimum motor reliability results are achieved on the criticality. Peak season EFOR is a direct indicator of the success of the motor testing strategy. When large motors fail during peak season, detrimental effects occur to the peak season EFOR. Because of the condition-based motor maintenance program, critical motors seldom fail at Plant Miller.

Jeff is employed at Plant Miller of Alabama Power Company as a CBM Specialist Sr.–Motor Diagnostics. Plant Miller is the largest power generation facility of Alabama Power Company. Located in the southeastern United States of America, Plant Miller is a primary contributor of the Southern Company Generation Fleet.

Plant Miller was recognized in the February 2007 issue of Power Engineering magazine as one of the best performing power generation facilities in the United States of America. He was awarded the 2007 Excellence in Electrical Reliability Award by the PdMA Corporation for his efforts in the field of electrical predictive maintenance and reliability. He is recognized across Southern Company as a subject matter expert in the areas of motor maintenance and motor diagnostics.

Jeff has been actively involved in predictive maintenance for twenty years. His primary duties include: performing static and dynamic motor diagnostics at Southern Company plants, coordinating all motor repairs from Plant Miller, and conducting post maintenance testing after critical motors have been repaired in approved motor repair facilities. He also provides direct supervision for installation of motor test access ports. He is Level II certified in motor diagnostics by Southern Company.

Southern Company Program Highlights

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