

UPTIME'S PDM 2010 PROGRAM OF THE YEAR



Wells PdM Tools

- CSI (Emerson) 5200 Oil Lab. OilView RBMware.
- One FLIR P60 IR Camera with Software Explorer 2000, and one FLIR i50 IR Camera with QuickReport 1.2
- One UE 10000 Ultraprobe, one UE 9000, and several 201 Grease Caddies
- One SKF CMXA70 Vibration Data Collector. (Analysis is currently outsourced.)
- DMSI MAINTelligence software with three Psion Workabout Pro Handheld Condition Monitoring Devices.
- Inspect CE software. 3 Attachments for the Handheld Devices including Inspect Vib sensor, and MX4+ Infrared Guns
- US Petrolon Industrial Submicron Filtration Systems
- Multiple Model 87 Quad Portable Units and countless units permanently mounted on critical equipment such as compressors

Wells Lubrication Program Highlights

Wells is a family owned and operated company that was started in 1913 by Fred H. Wells. Wells is headquartered in Le Mars, Iowa which coincidentally is the Ice Cream Capital of the World and the home of Blue Bunny Ice Cream. There are 3 production facilities: 2 in Le Mars Iowa and 1 in St. George Utah. With 2500+ employees and over 50 production lines it is easy to see why they call Le Mars, Iowa the Ice Cream Capital of the World.

The Lubrication and Oil Analysis Program at Wells has been undergoing transformation since early 2007. In our current state we have 3 dedicated lubrication technicians and 2 (soon-to-be 3) oil analysis technicians. Education, knowledge transfer, and corporate backing have all

played an integral part of our success with our lubrication and oil analysis programs. In

2007 we had an initial lubrication audit performed by Noria which identified the areas of need in our program.

Since that time we have on-going quarterly audits of our lubrication and oil analysis programs to measure our growth and areas of concern alike. The expectation of continuously improving our program and the clear identification of gaps, regular team meetings, and our increased knowledge of basic

lubrication principles created a competitive, yet nurturing environment that aided us in moving forward as a unified team. Beginning this project with 100+ lubricants and more vendors than I have fingers, we understood that we needed to consolidate. The consolidation process and the lubricant qualification worked hand in hand. With three production facilities this was no small task. We ended up with 1/5th of the lubricants we started with and more importantly we did it as a team. We have dedicated lubrication rooms in each of our facilities. In these rooms, we house both the bulk storage of our oils and greases and a good share of our lubrication equipment. All oils arriving at our Le Mars facilities are sampled and tested prior to being filtered and transferred to our bulk storage containers. Oil changes are driven by oil analysis which

is done in house utilizing our mini oil lab. On average we process 100 samples per month through our oil lab.

We are constantly evaluating our lube practices and finding additional ways to increase our effectiveness and reduce the potential for failures on our equipment. We have installed various types of automatic lubrication systems, from the single-point lubricators to complete product chain pinpoint spray systems. With that said we have both lubrication technicians and maintenance technicians lubricating our assets and have developed a true partnership with our maintenance group that has proven to be very rewarding.

The one thing we know as a lubrication team is this: We do not have all the answers; we have only just begun our journey to true lubrication excellence.



Front Row From Left: Larry Hoing - Reliability Mgr., Dennis Pedersen - Refrigeration Technician/ Lube Tech., Matt Krommenhoek - Maintenance Planner, Doyle Goss - Lubrication Technician, Don Palmer - Refrigeration Specialist (Oil Lab), Allan Klink - Maintenance Planner
Back Row From Left: Arlan Britt - Lubrication Technician, Lynn Moir - Lubrication Technician Mark Crowley - Maintenance Planner, Chad Norris - Refrigeration Engineer (Oil Lab)

Best
Lubrication
Program

Wells