



# **STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS**

**Western Regional Boiler User Conference**

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**DRESSER-RAND**

# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



Presented by

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# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## This Paper was written for the following reasons:

- Indications of the areas of potential performance improvements for steam turbines.
- Guidance on where to locate the greatest potential of efficiency improvements
- Quantify values of improvement.

# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Areas Covered in Paper:

- Steam Chest Design
- Control Valve Design
- Control Valve Leakage
- Labyrinth Seals (Inter-stage, end gland, Retractable and Brush)
- Journal Bearing Design
- Thrust Bearing Design
- Nozzle Ring Design
- Diaphragm Design
- Rotating Airfoil Design
- Shroud Construction
- Rotor Design
- Casing Body Design
- Exhaust Construction
- Rotor Leakage Re-induction
- Tip Seals
- Rim Seals
- Wind Shields



## STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



The Presentation Will Cover only the Major Performance Improvement Areas

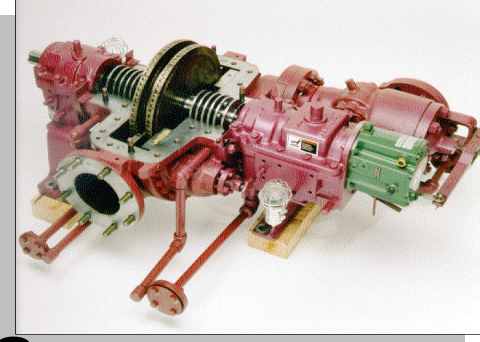
# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## Areas to be covered in the presentation:

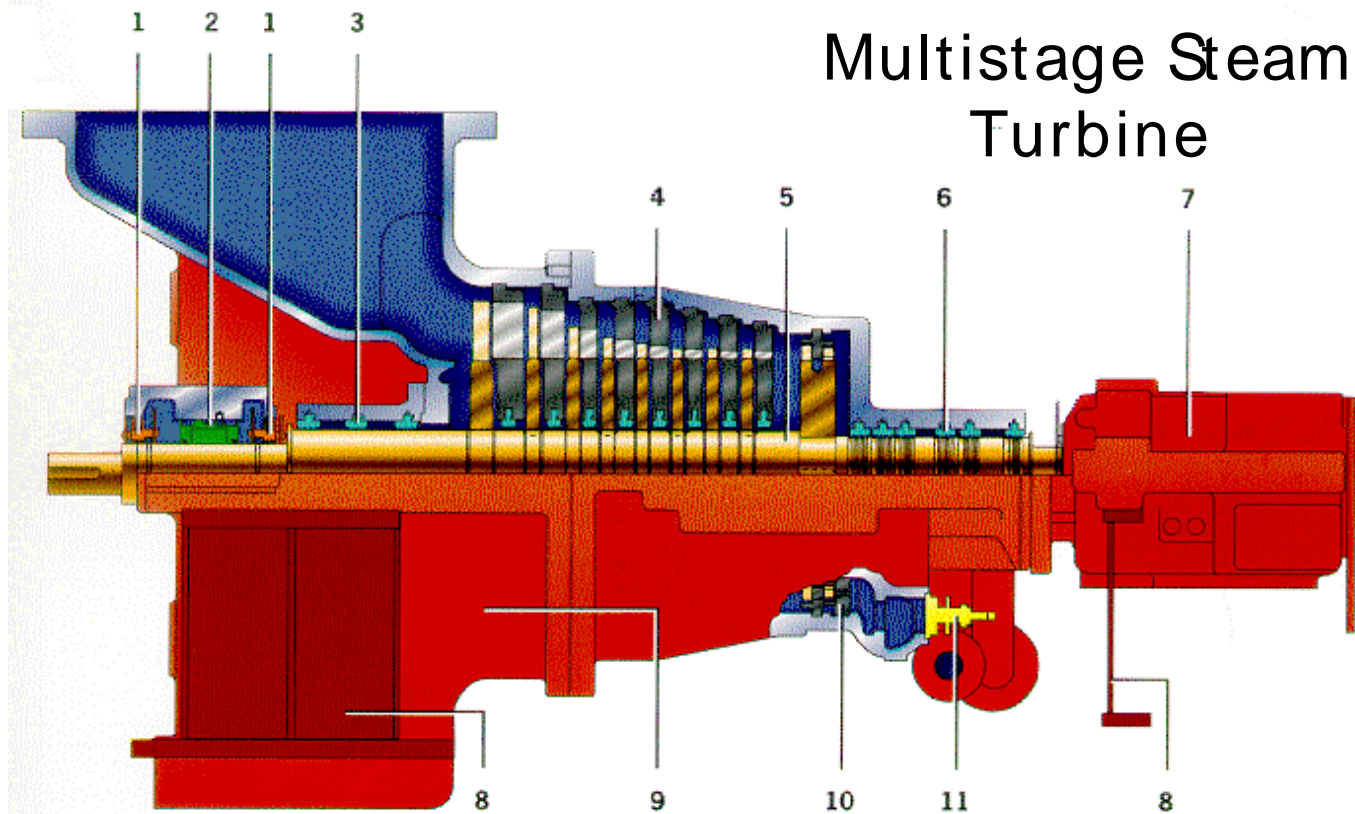
- Labyrinth Seals (Inter-stage, End Gland, Retractable, and Brush)
- Nozzles/Diaphragms
- Rotating Airfoils

# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## *Steam Turbines*

# Steam Turbine Components



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



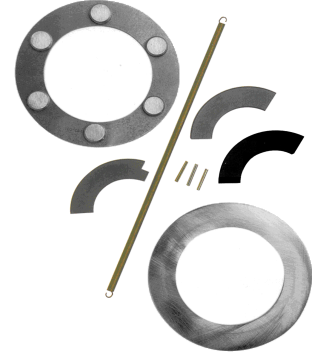
## Shaft Seals:

- **Carbon**

- 1) Normally utilized on single stage turbines
- 2) New improved design materials will increase efficiency by .5 to 1.0 percent
- 3) You are able to decrease shaft to carbon clearances with improved material

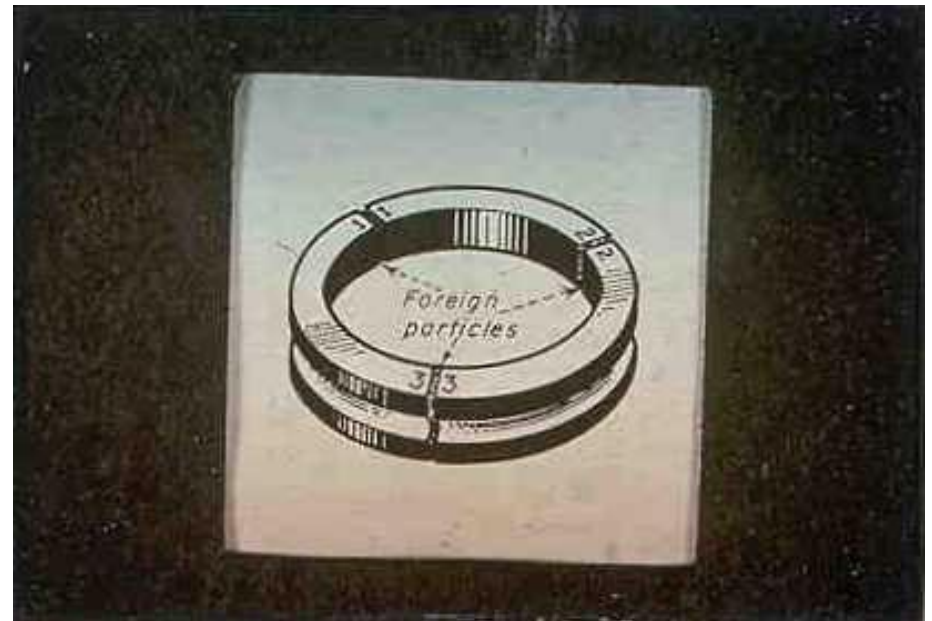


# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## *Carbon Rings*

Carbon ring match marks  
& segments



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Shaft Labyrinth Seals:

- Straight or Stepped

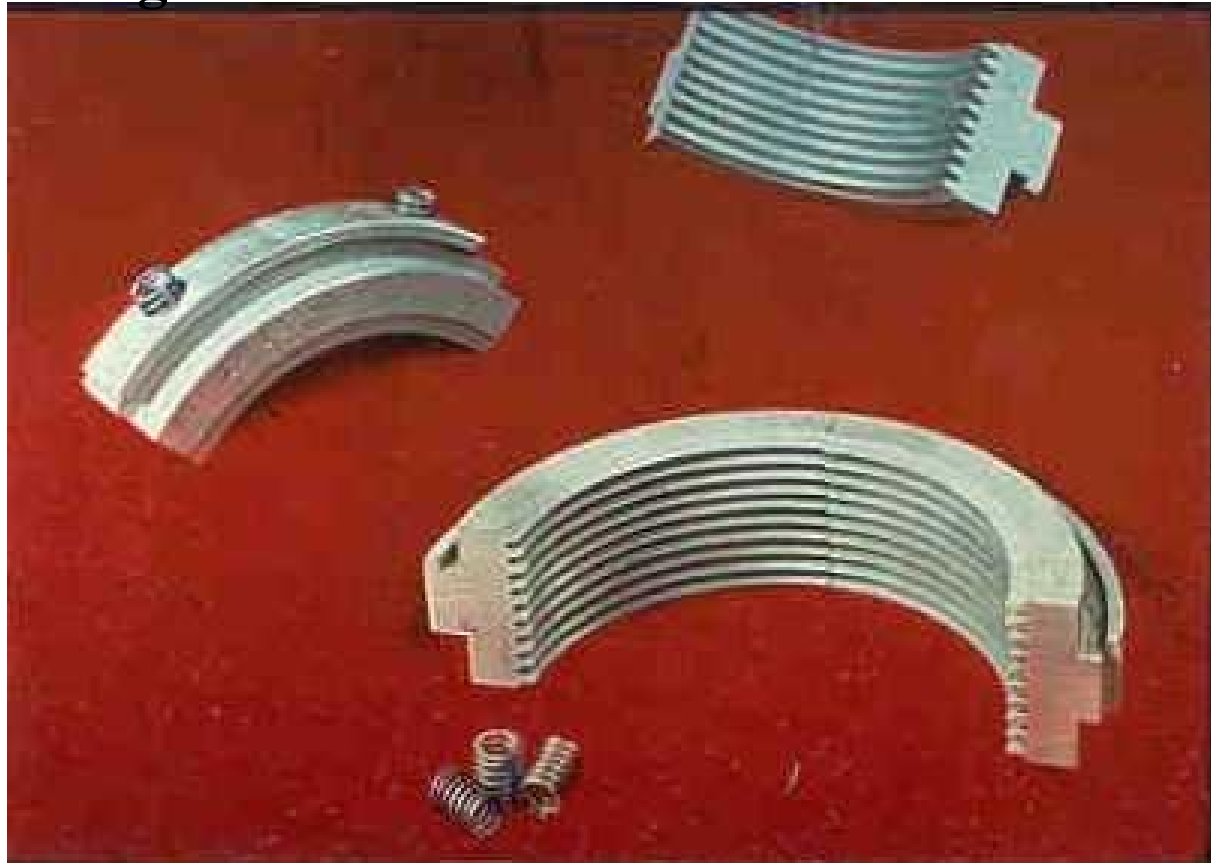


# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## *Labyrinth Seals*

- **Straight**

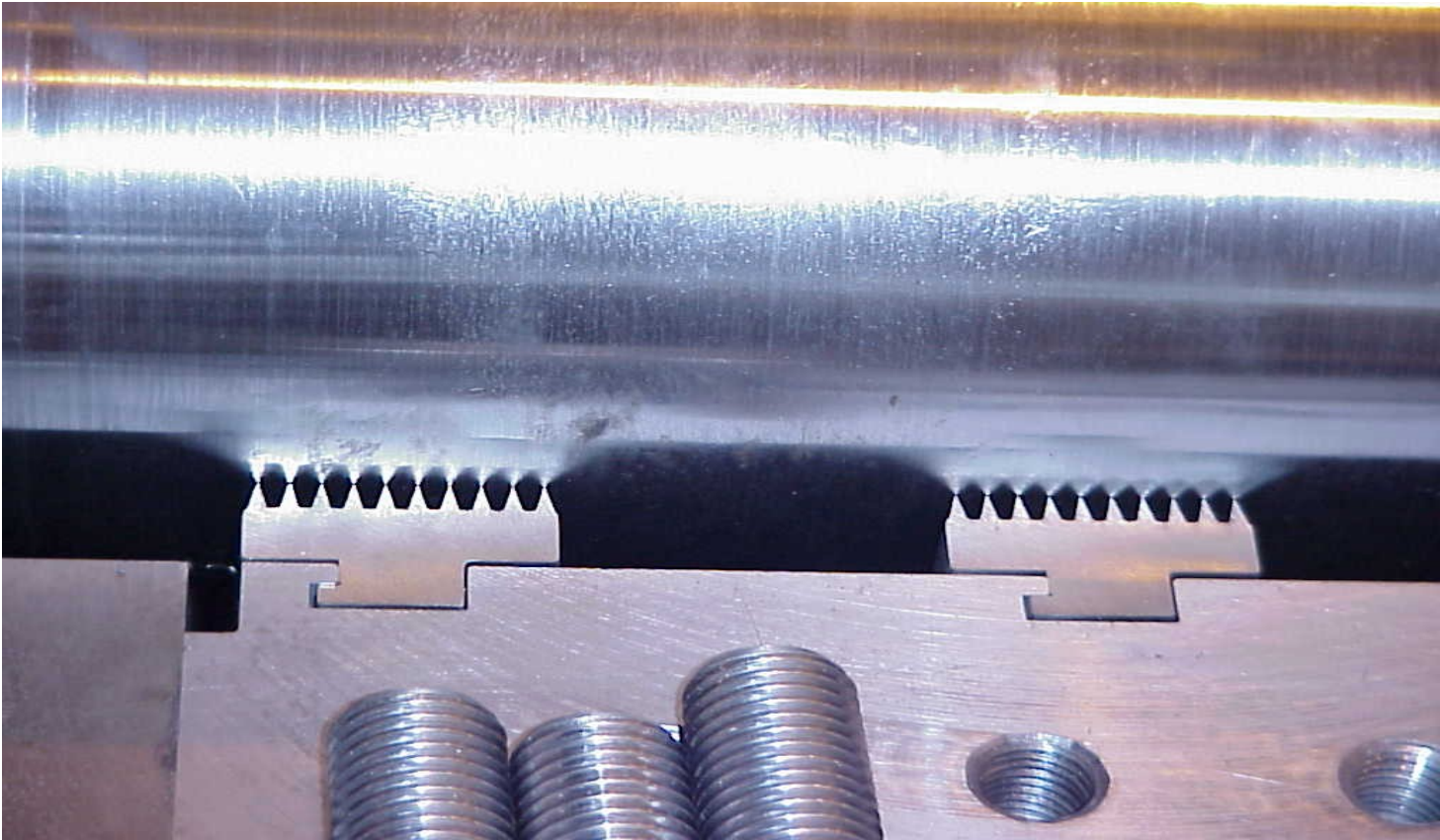


# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## *Labyrinth Seals*

- Straight

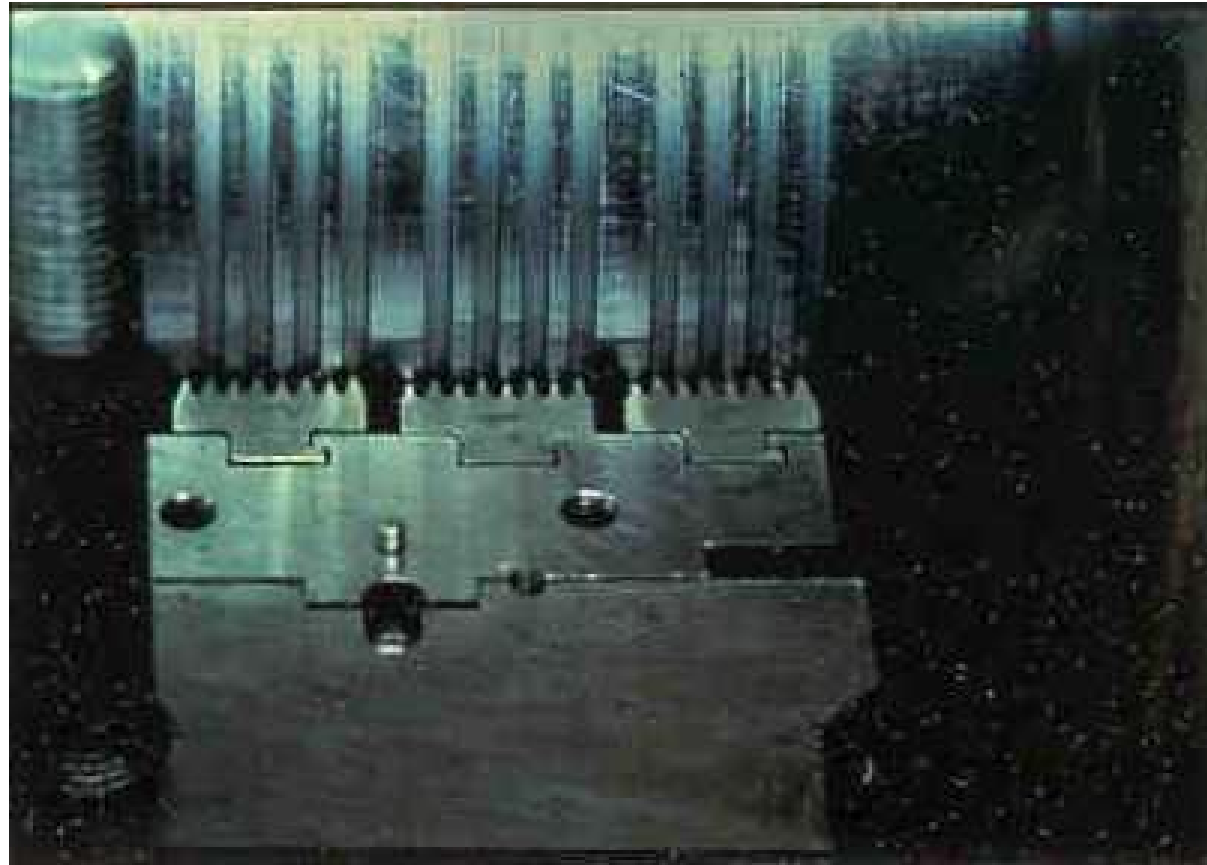


# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## *Labyrinth Seals*

- Stepped



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

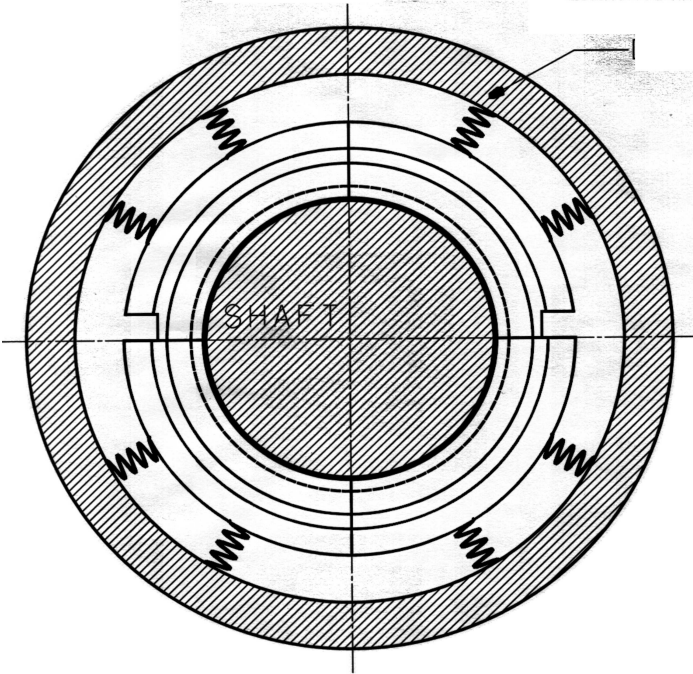


## **Shaft Labyrinth Seals:**

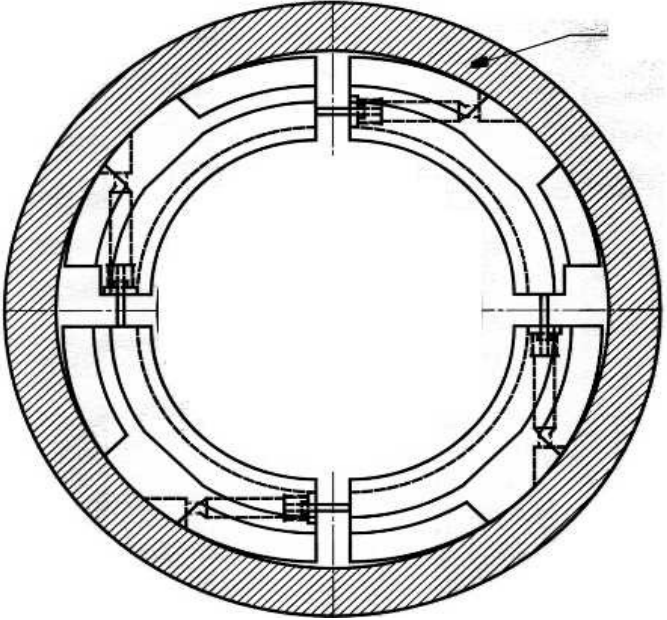
- **Retractable**



# Retractable Seal Upgrade



Conventional Labyrinth Ring

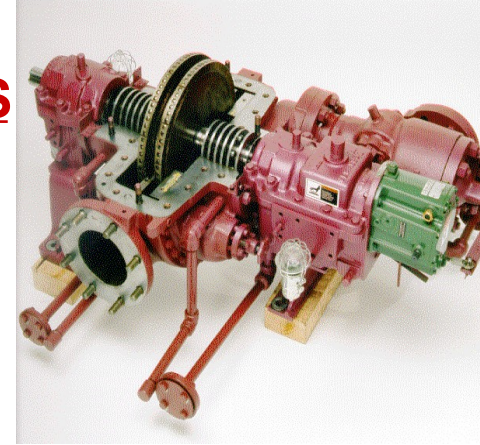


Retractable Labyrinth Ring

# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Shaft Labyrinth Seals:

- Retractable Brush

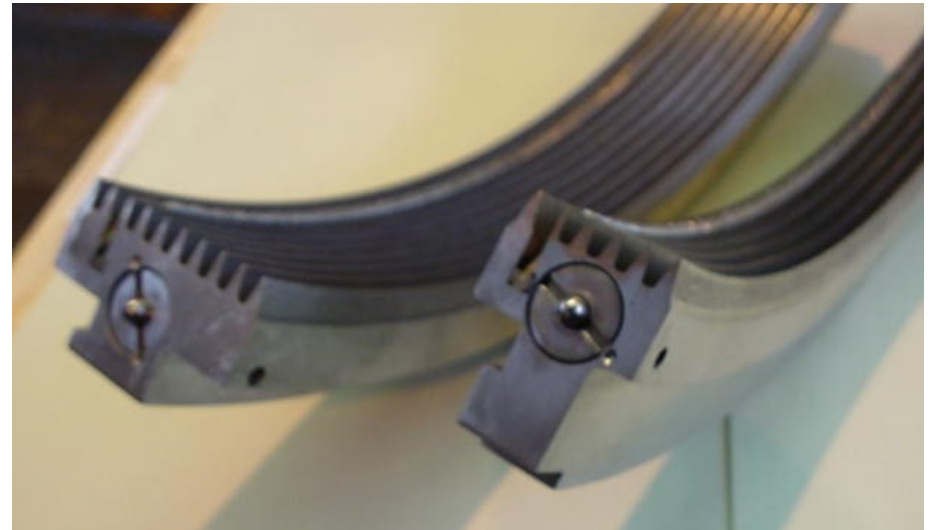
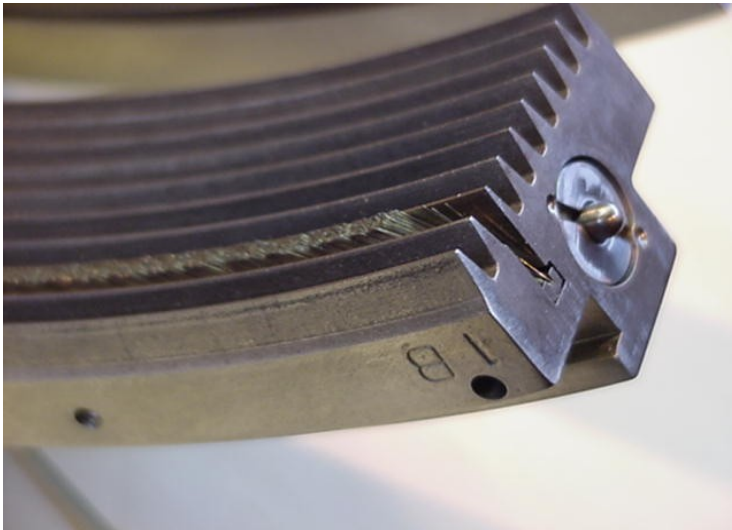






## Brush Seals

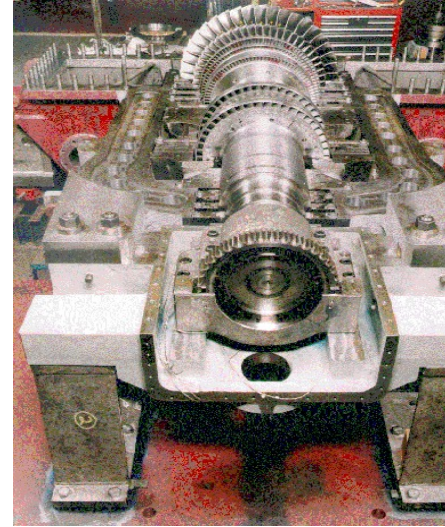
- **Brush seals are available as an integral part of labyrinth seals or may be installed in the pressure closing seals as shown below.**

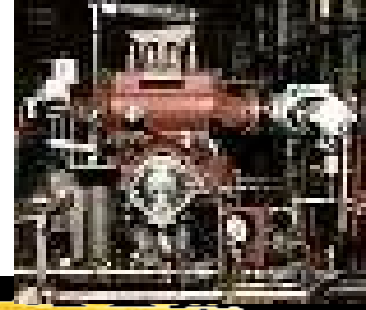


# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Shaft Seals:

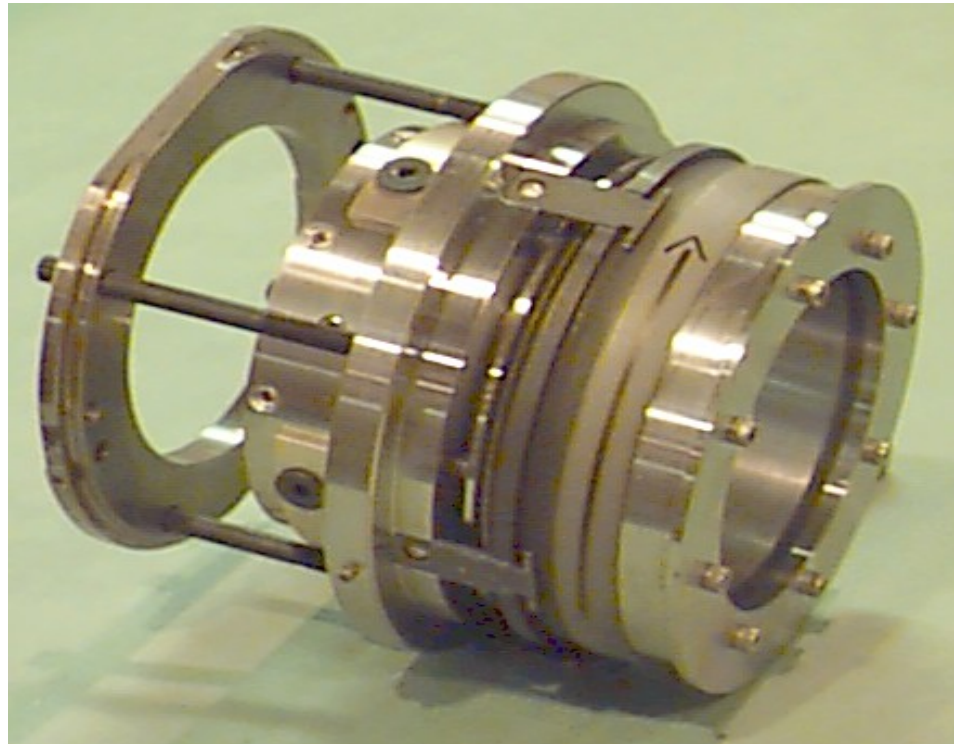
- Mechanical Seals





# Steam Seals

## Mechanical Seals



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## Shaft Seals:

### Extremely Important Area for Efficiency Improvement

- Potential Inefficiency of **3 to 5 Percent**.
- Retractable Seals Increase Clearance at Startup.
- Retractable Seals Hold Clearance Between outages.
- Retractable/Brush Seals Have Zero Clearance.
- Brush Seals Improve Efficiency in the area of **1.0 percent**.

# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Nozzles/Diaphragms:

- Reamed



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



- Reamed



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Nozzles/Diaphragms:

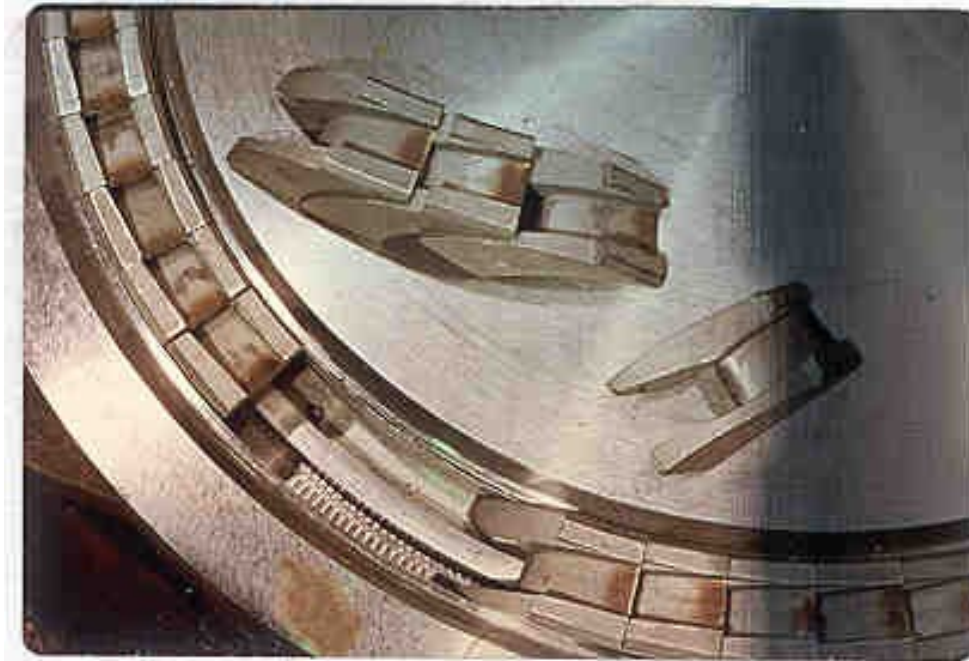
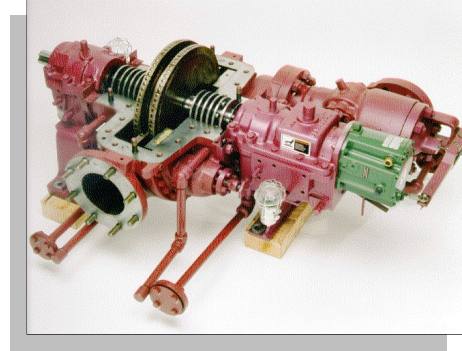
- Investment Cast



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Steam Turbine Components*

### Diaphragm Designs





# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Nozzles/Diaphragms:

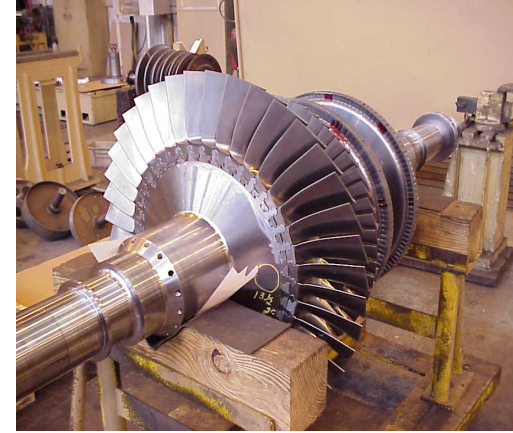
- Milled and Welded



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Steam Turbine Components*

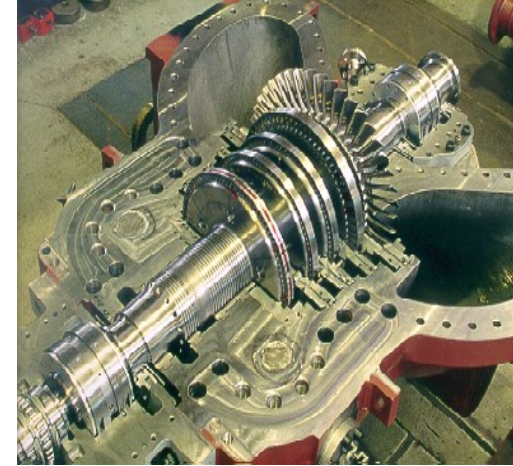
### Diaphragm Designs



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

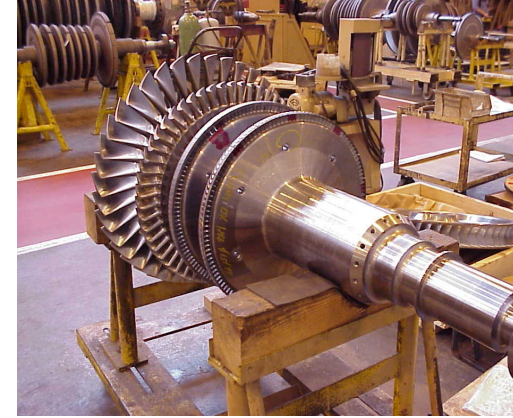
## **Nozzles/Diaphragms:**

- **Profiled Ring and Vain:**



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## *Steam Turbine* *Components* Diaphragm Designs



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## Nozzles/Diaphragms:

- Constant Ring and Vane
- Cast

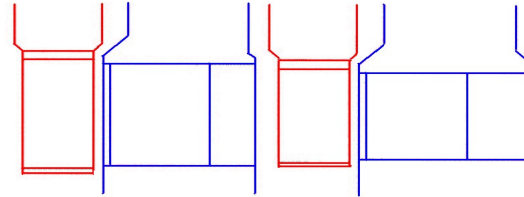
# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



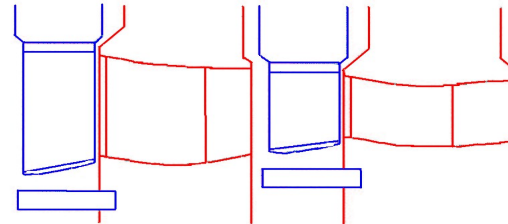
## PRV Diaphragms

**Flow Paths Used In Comparative Tests**

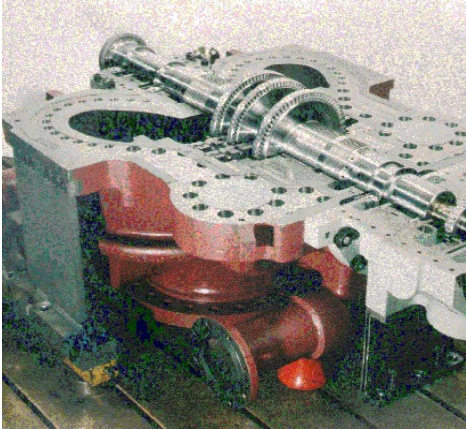
**Cylindrical End Walls**



**Profiled End Walls,  
High-Efficiency Airfoils**



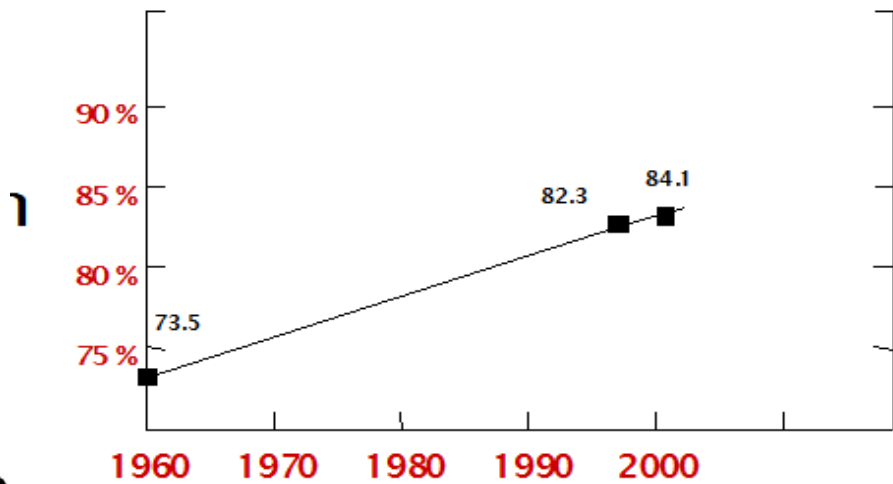
# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## Nozzles/Diaphragms:

- Highest potential for improvement.
- Design initiatives to obtain approximately **10 percent** increase in efficiency in the past 20 years.
- Possible **15 percent** improvement due to wear/damage.

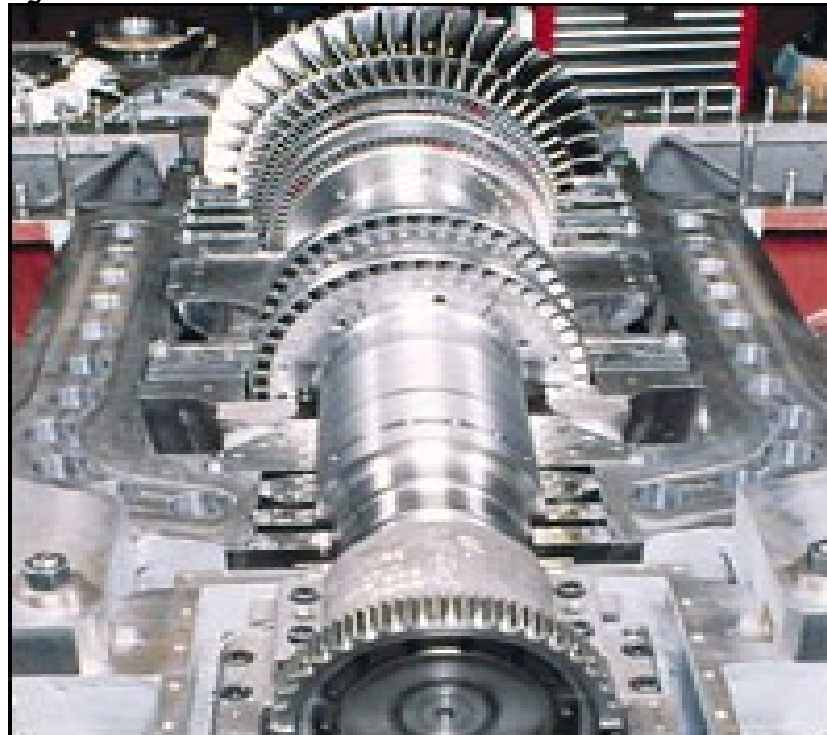
Progression of Steam Turbine  
Diaphragm Efficiency



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## **Rotating Airfoils: Root Design**

Internal fir tree  
External fir tree  
Axial entry





# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



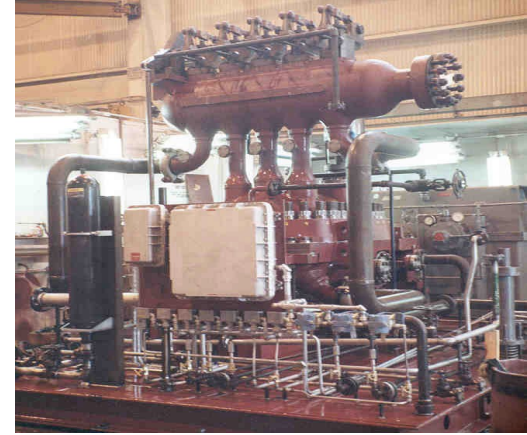
## Rotating Airfoils:



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

## Rotating Airfoils:

- Efficiency Improvements of **5%** in the Past Ten Years
- **More Than 5%** Due to Wear/Damage



# STEAM TURBINE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS



## **Conclusion:**

- Know where you plan to operate your turbine.
- Know how you want to operate the turbine.
- Understand the inefficiency of off designs.
- Keep informed of all O.E.M's efficiency upgrades.
- Complete value calculators on all potential upgrades.
- Track performance of unit continuously.
- Shaft seals and airfoils are normally the areas to concentrate on.



# DRESSER-RAND

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