

Early Tube Leak Detection: See What You Can't Hear

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Acoustic Monitoring



Early steam leak detection in power boilers, recovery boilers, feedwater heaters and Heat Recovery Steam Generators (HRSGs)

Agenda

- Benefits of Acoustic Monitoring
- How Acoustic Monitoring works & Associated Hardware
- Sensor Locations on the Boiler
- Leak Trends and Spectrum Analysis



Acoustic Monitoring Detects

- Boiler tube leaks
- Feedwater heater tube leaks and operational anomalies
- HRSG tube leaks
- Stuck sootblowers
- Sootblower effectiveness
- Boiler pluggage and slagging
- Leaking valves and external issues
- Damaging vibration



Acoustic Monitoring is used to:

- Detect leaks earlier than traditional methods
- Reduce secondary damage
- Locate area of leak(s) before unit comes offline
- Trend the severity and progression of the leak with real time data
- Schedule a maintenance vs. a forced outage
- Pre plan jobs with correct assets
- Manage market exposure and risk
- Avoid shadow loss of generation/production
- Provides additional safety measures for high risk areas

HOW ACOUSTIC MONITORING WORKS & ASSOCIATED HARDWARE







Boiler Leak Detection





Boiler Sounding Rod Installation



- Non invasive rods weld to boiler wall
- Sensor mounted on end
- Covered with sensor/rod box for protection



Feedwater Heater Sounding Rod Installation

- Non invasive rod welds to the shell at the tube sheet below the water level
- Sensor mounted on end
- Covered with sensor box for protection





HRSG Leak Detection





HRSG Sounding Rod Installation



- •Non invasive rods weld to inner liner Sensor mounted on end
- Covered with sensor box for protection
- •Length determined based on access

SENSOR LOCATIONS ON THE BOILER



Sensor Locations on the Boiler



Each $\stackrel{\frown}{=}$ indicates 2 sensors on opposite walls Each $\stackrel{\bullet}{=}$ indicates 3 sensors on the same wall Each $\stackrel{\frown}{=}$ indicates 2 sensors on the same wall

> •Sensor locations chosen based on tube configuration and plant areas of concern

•Leak noise follows the gas flow of the unit

Boiler Software Map

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ACOUSTIC MONITORING SYSTEM - [SENSOR MAP]



HRSG Software Map



SIGNAL TREND







Normal Baseline Trend



Normal Spectrum



LEAK TRENDS & SPECTRUM ANALYSIS





Waterwall Leak





Waterwall Leak



Pluggage & Reheat Leak





Reheat Leak Spectrum



Pluggage Spectrum



Pinhole Waterwall Leak



Recovery Boiler Economizer Header Leak



Recovery Boiler Economizer Leak



Recovery Boiler Economizer Leak



Heat Exchanger Leak



HRSG Superheat Leak



HRSG Superheat Leak Spectrum



HRSG Superheat Leak

No other plant indications of a leak







Thank you!

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