

QUALITROL®

OCTOBER 2020 • POWER GENERATION

NEW TRENDS AND USER EXPERIENCE IN ONLINE TRANSFORMER CONDITION MONITORING

Joerg Preusel, Gridinspect (D) Thomas Linn, Qualitrol (CH/ USA)





CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING AND NEW TRENDS

- > Challenge
- > New Trends
- > What we want to achieve with Condition Monitoring?
- > It's all about data
- > Condition Monitoring Trends Summary

TRANSFORMER MONITORING EXAMPLES

CONCLUSION



CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING

**DEREGULATION
CHANGED THE FACE OF
THE ENERGY MARKET**

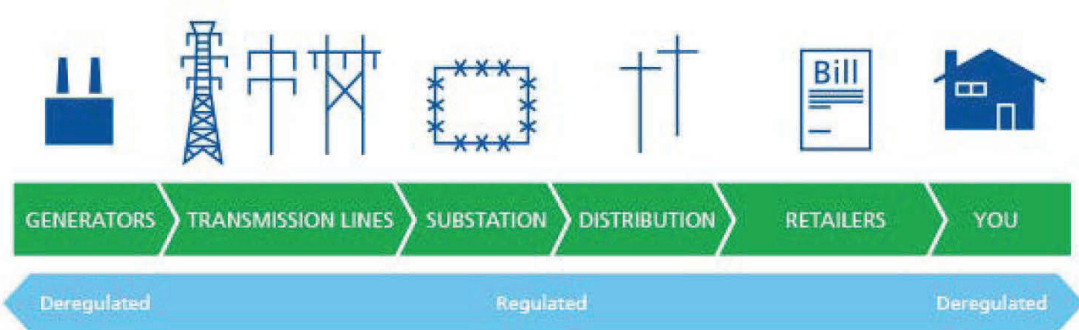
**GENERATION,
TRANSMISSION
AND DISTRIBUTION
WERE DIVIDED**

**MORE PROFIT
ORIENTED
ENTERPRISES**

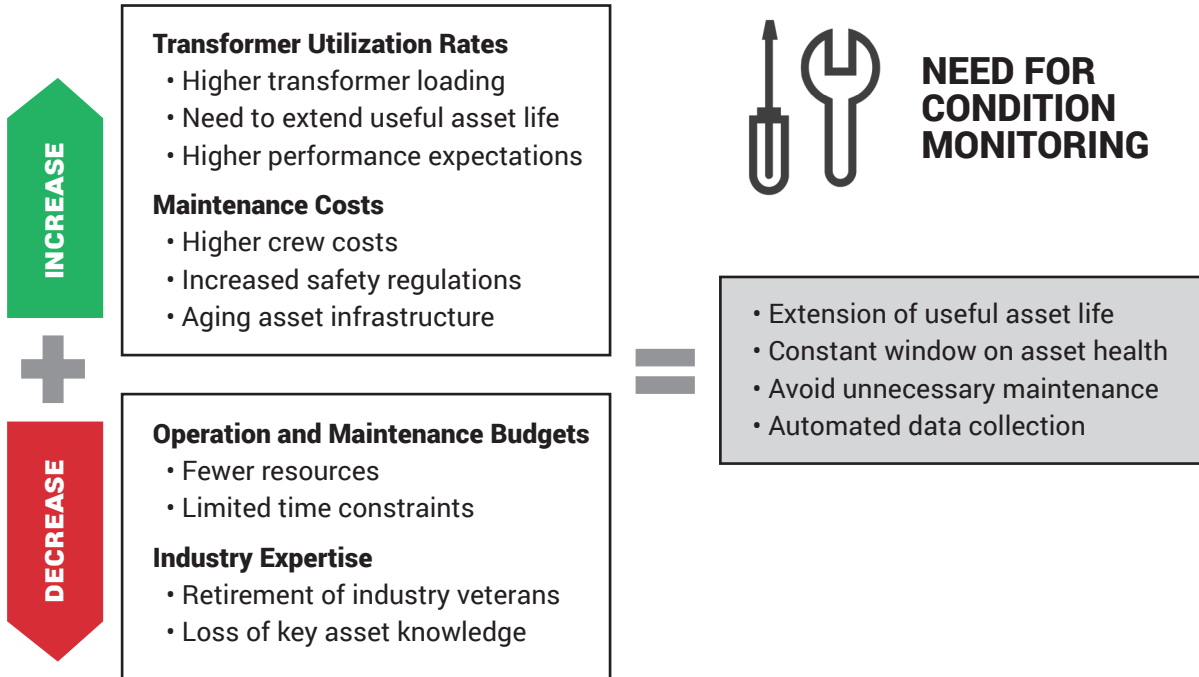
**OUTSOURCE
MAINTENANCE AND
OTHER TECHNICAL
SERVICES**

**CAREFUL
INVESTMENTS IN
NEW OR RENEWAL
OF EQUIPMENT**

**SOMETIMES
LIMITED TO
REPLACEMENT**



CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING





CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING

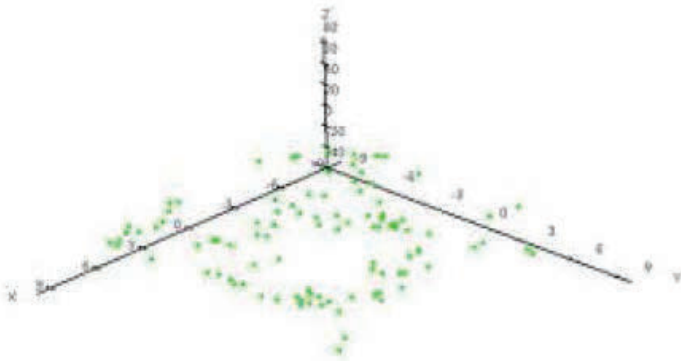
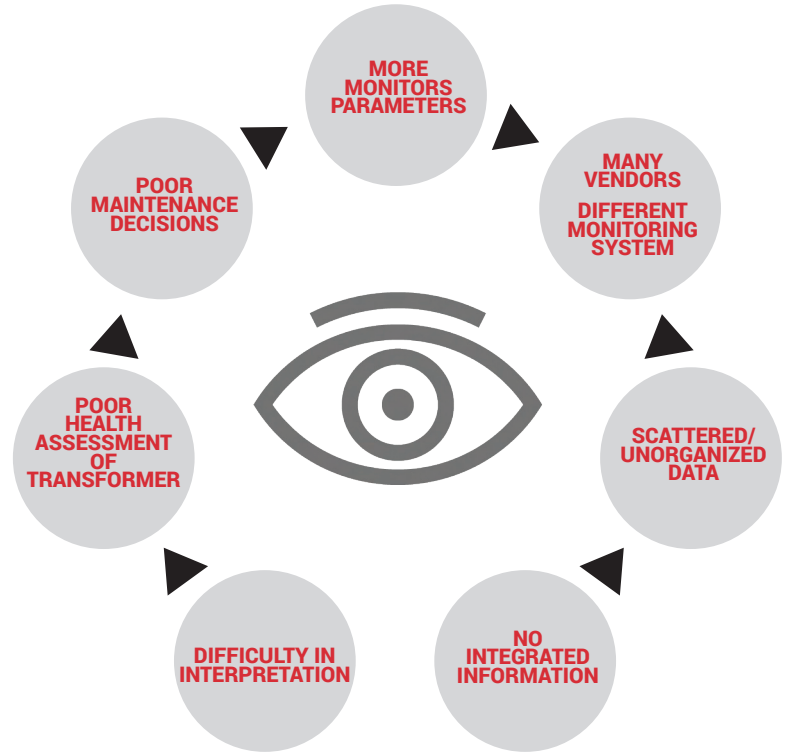
- Online monitoring was limited to some parameters
- Users struggled accessing the true overall condition of an asset
- Confusions prevailed over clear decisions

**“FALSE ALARMS” LEADED AND LEAD
IN NOT TRUSTING INSTALLED
MONITORING SOLUTIONS**

**A COMMON OPINION STILL IS THAT
ALWAYS THE HELP OF EXPERTS IN
THAT FIELD IS NEEDED**

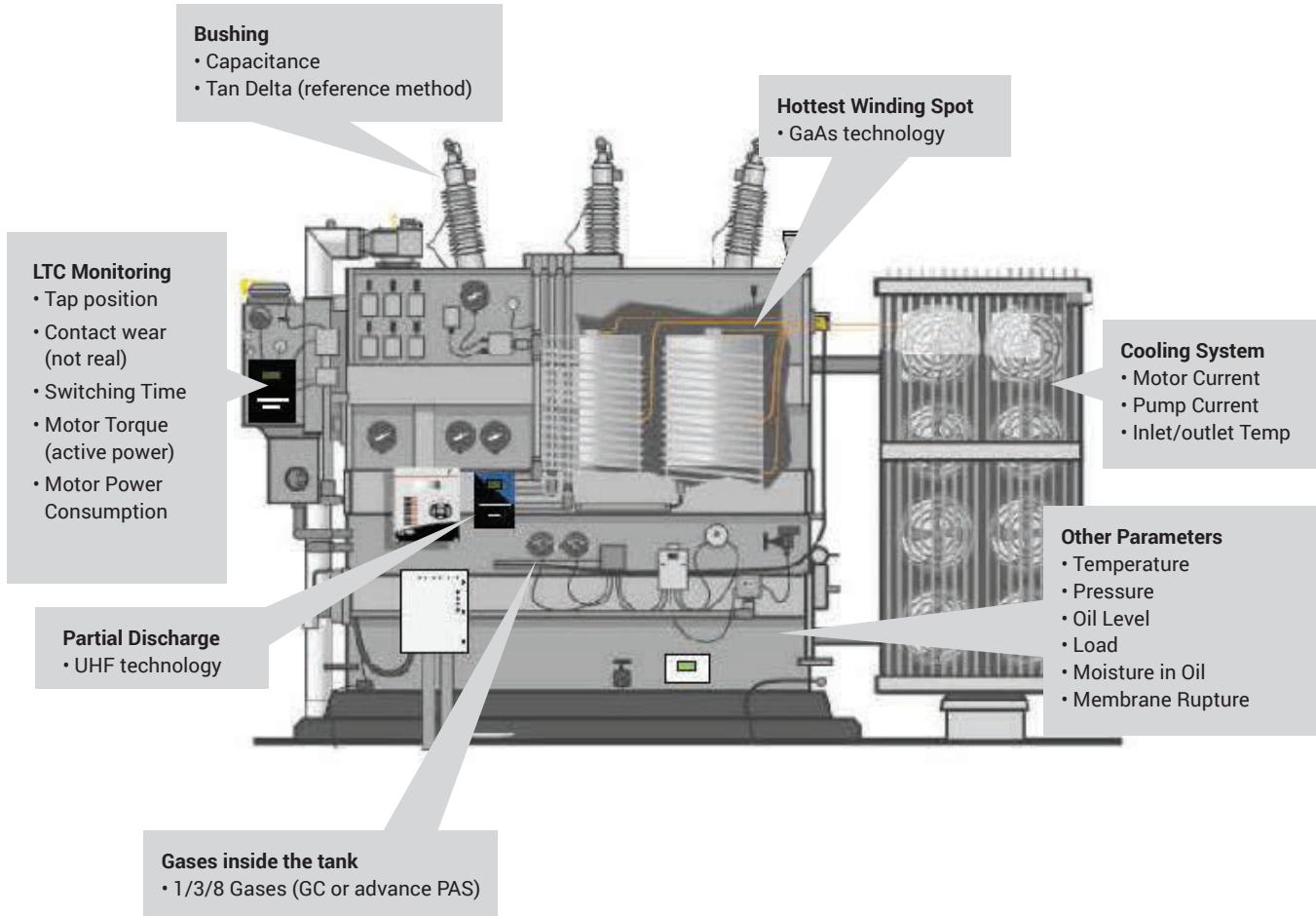
CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING

- Presenting “only” data can mislead to:
 - Poor maintenance/ operational decisions
 - Unnecessary interventions
 - Potential to introduce new risks
- Often it is difficult to analyze the scattered data
- Data are analyzed separately in disregard of the possible relationship to other parameters or even legacy data





NEW TRENDS IN TRANSFORMER MONITORING



MODELS

Insulation
Aging

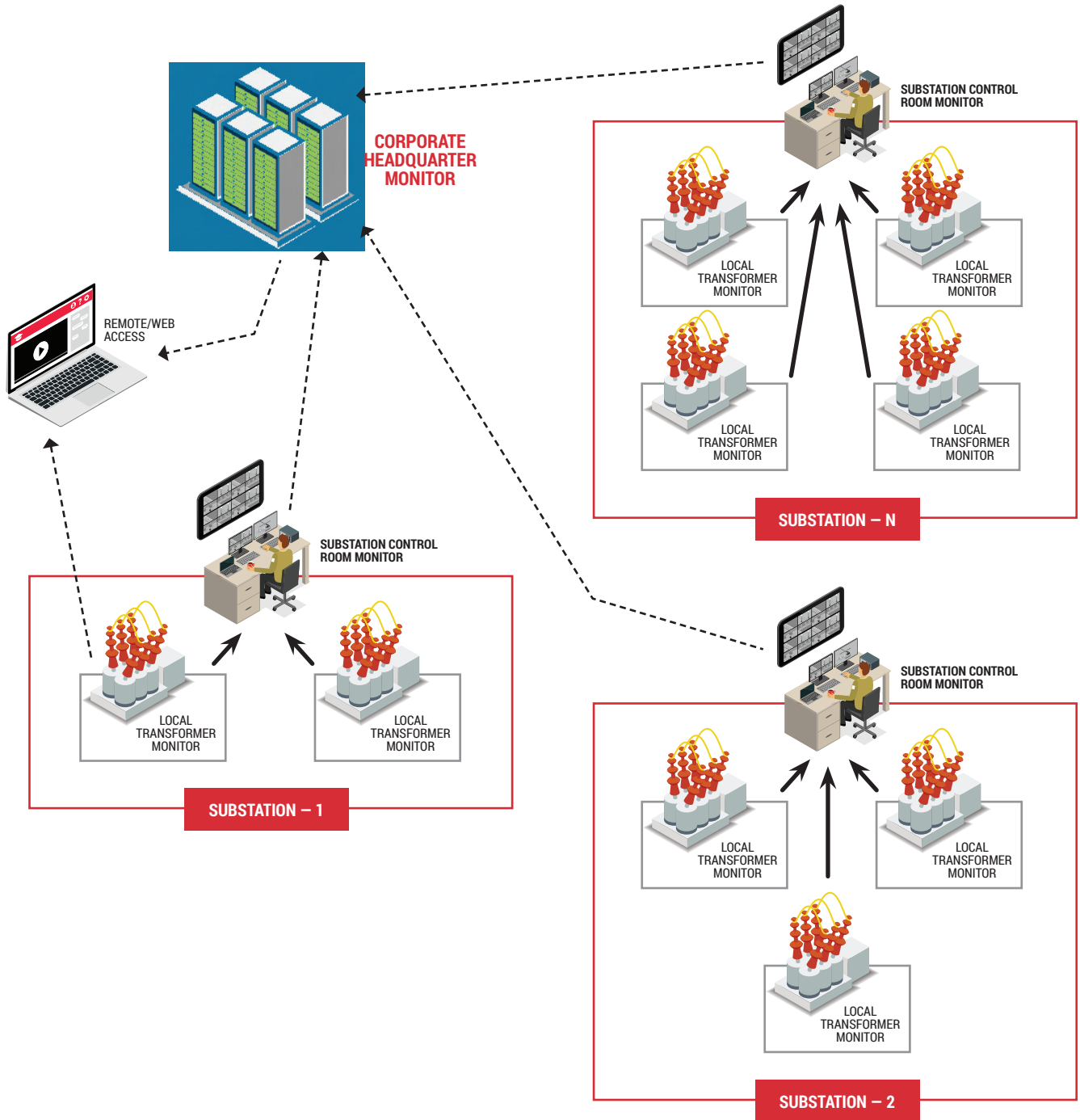
Life time
Consumption

Moisture in
Insulation

Bubbling
Temperature



NEW TRENDS IN TRANSFORMER MONITORING





WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE WITH CONDITION MONITORING?

PREVENT MAJOR FAILURES AND OPTIMIZE MAINTENANCE

- Reduce cost of sudden outages
- Avoid unnecessary maintenance visits

ACHIEVE BETTER UTILIZATION OF LOAD CAPACITY

- Put closer watch on the units that has higher risk levels
- Expert Decision Support System

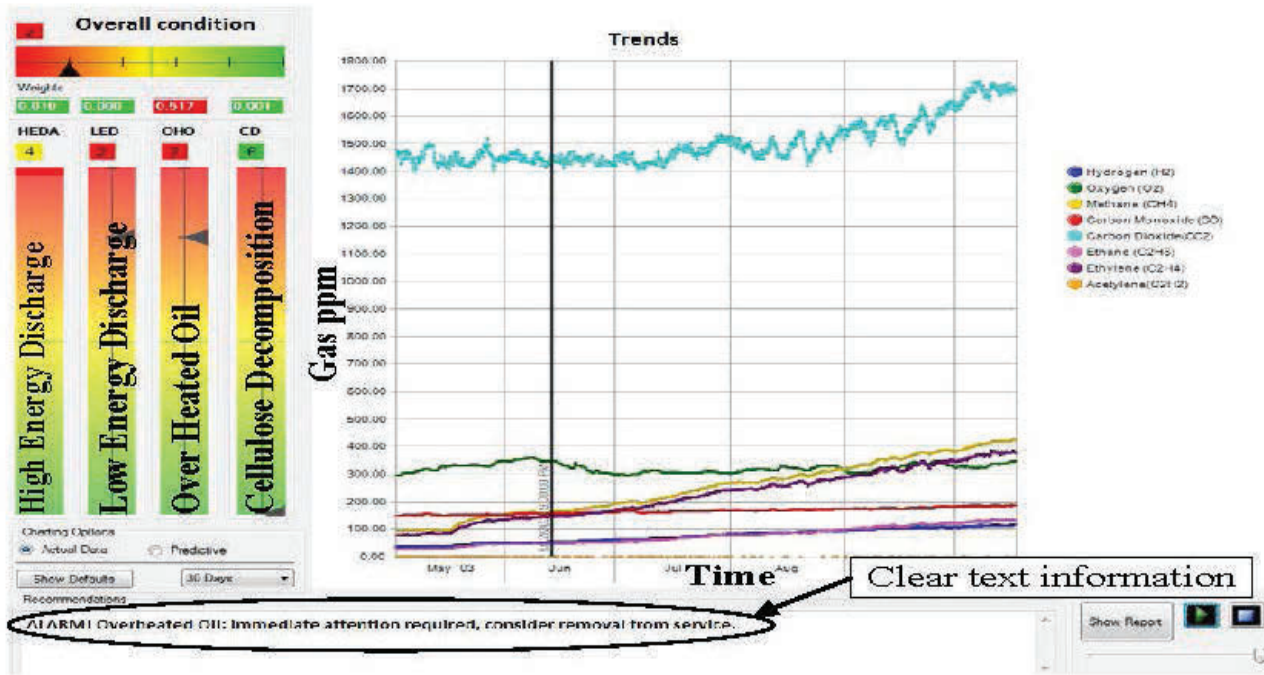
USING THE TRANSFORMER UNTIL ITS REAL END OF LIFE

- Comparison with benchmark data
- Failure pattern analysis



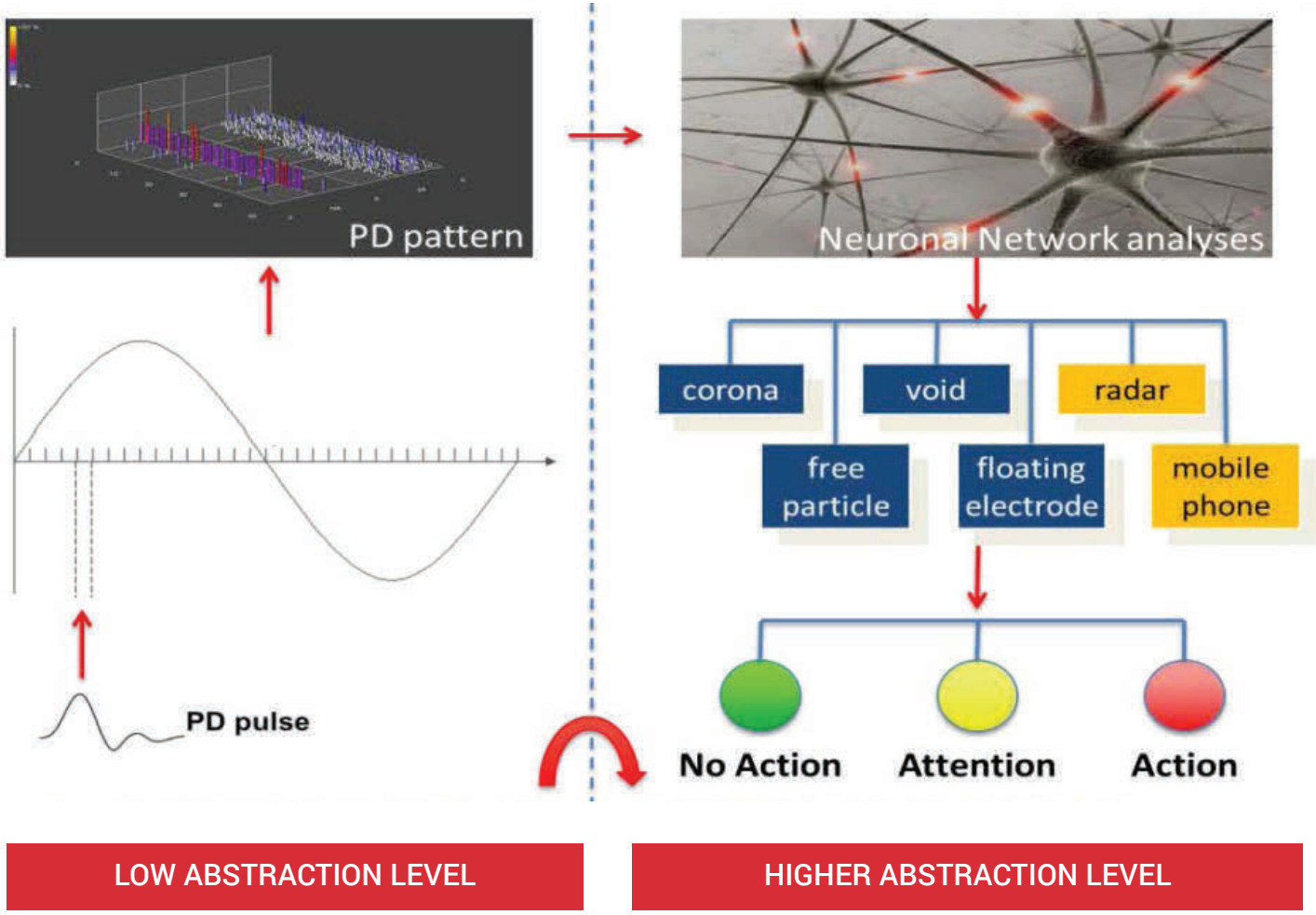
CONDITION MONITORING – IT'S ALL ABOUT DATA

Analytics describes the condition of an asset based on a certain input parameters (provides the inside of the asset). To determine often neuronal networks, simple and fuzzy logic etc. will be used.



GAS IN OIL ANALYTICS WITH CLEAR TEXT INFORMATION/ RECOMMENDATIONS

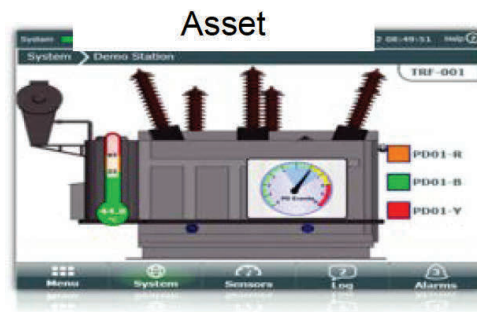
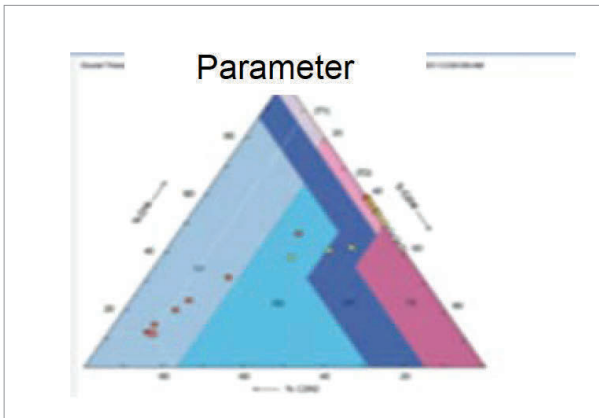
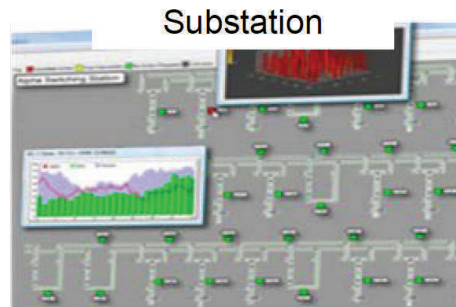
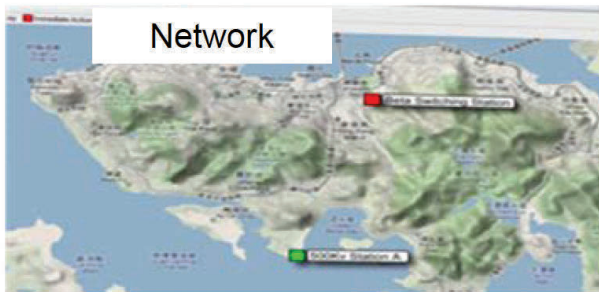
CONDITION MONITORING – IT'S ALL ABOUT DATA





CONDITION MONITORING – IT'S ALL ABOUT DATA

Applying the abstraction levels to a utility user the user





CONDITION MONITORING – IT’S ALL ABOUT DATA

PROBLEM	MEASURED SIGNALS	ANALYTIC MODELS	CONFIRMATION	DETECTION TIME
Loss of core ground Unintentional core and shield grounds	Hydrogen or multi-gas	DGA	1	Hours
	Core ground current	Core Ground Current	2	Real time
	Gas accumulation relay	Gas Accumulation Rate	3	Hours
	PD	PD	4	Real Time
	Core hotspot (Fiber) Temperature	Thermal	5	Hours

The used type of monitoring should be always adapted to the problem which should be detected. Experiences from users are showing:

- It is important to know the history of a certain transformer/ transformer fleet
- It is important to know type and vendor specific behavior
- It is important to know the importance of a certain transformer



CONDITION MONITORING – IT'S ALL ABOUT DATA

Users today asking for:

- Analyzed data with clear recommendations (clear text preferable)
- Long-term reliable systems with low maintenance level for the monitoring system
- Immunity against disturbances in order to prevent false alarms
- Easy to use and cost-effective solutions
- Correlation of online and offline data in one central CMS (condition monitoring system)



CONDITION MONITORING TRENDS SUMMARY

In condition monitoring the trends are going of course still in using new parameters and advanced measuring principles but also into handling the data in a better way, combining and abstracting them in order to get an easy information for the user.

As there are tons of offline data available, these data going to be more and more integrated into comprehensive systems, which allows correlative analyses in order to verify certain assessment based on only one or a limited number of data.



CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING AND NEW TRENDS

- > Challenge
- > New Trends
- > What we want to achieve with Condition Monitoring?
- > It's all about data
- > Condition Monitoring Trends Summary

TRANSFORMER MONITORING EXAMPLES

CONCLUSION



AEP TRANSFORMER FAILURE EVENT

Background (2014Q1)

- > Catastrophic failure of (new) single phase 765KV xfmr
- > In service 3 months (1st new 765 kV failure since 1990s)
- > Fully monitored with standard EHV package
- > Alarms intentionally not sent to operations (by design)

Event Analysis

- > No prior warning indications received from:
 - Online DGA
 - Bushing health
 - Temperature
 - Legacy Data
- > PD monitor captured activity prior to failure
- > Preliminary root cause analysis – delivery transit damage



AEP TRANSFORMER FAILURE EVENT

The Failure Phenomenon

- > Partial Discharge Monitor Review
 - Single phase 765 kV transformer
 - UHF partial discharge monitoring system
 - 6 sensors measure thru “window” in transformer wall

- > Signature Found
 - Partial Discharge signature found
 - ~ 8 hour observed activity prior to failure
 - On-line algorithms not functional @F (early deployment)

AEP TRANSFORMER FAILURE EVENT

Signature Found

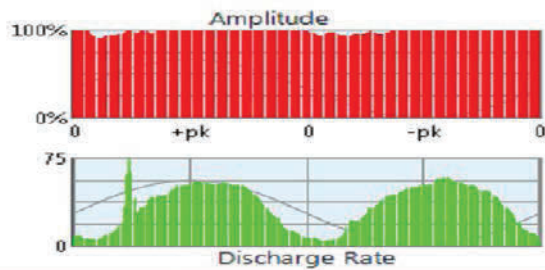
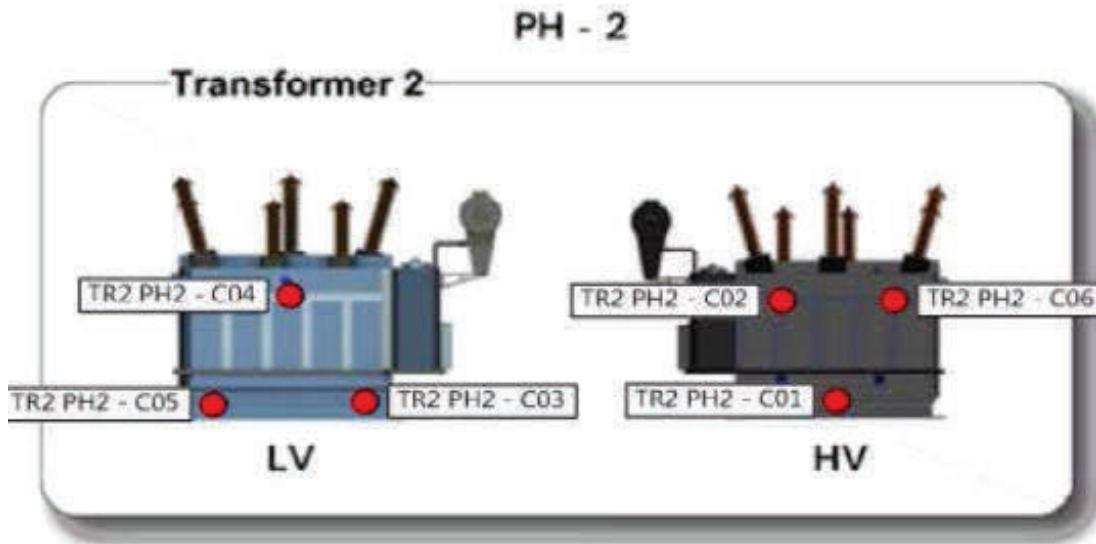


Figure 3 PHASE 2 - C01 PD POW SIGNAL

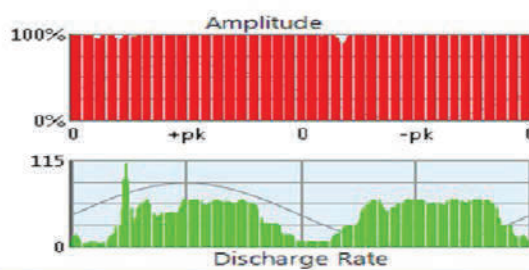


Figure 4 PHASE 2 - C02 PD POW SIGNAL

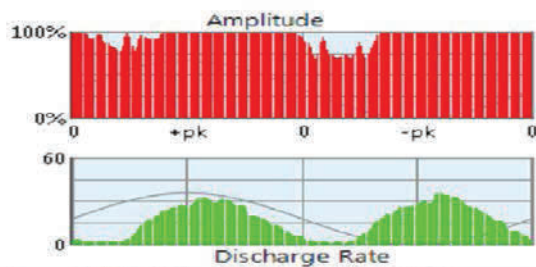


Figure 5 PHASE 2 - C01 PD POW SIGNAL

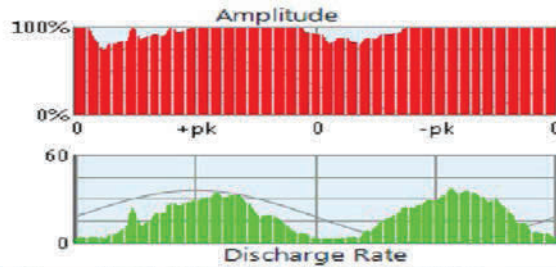
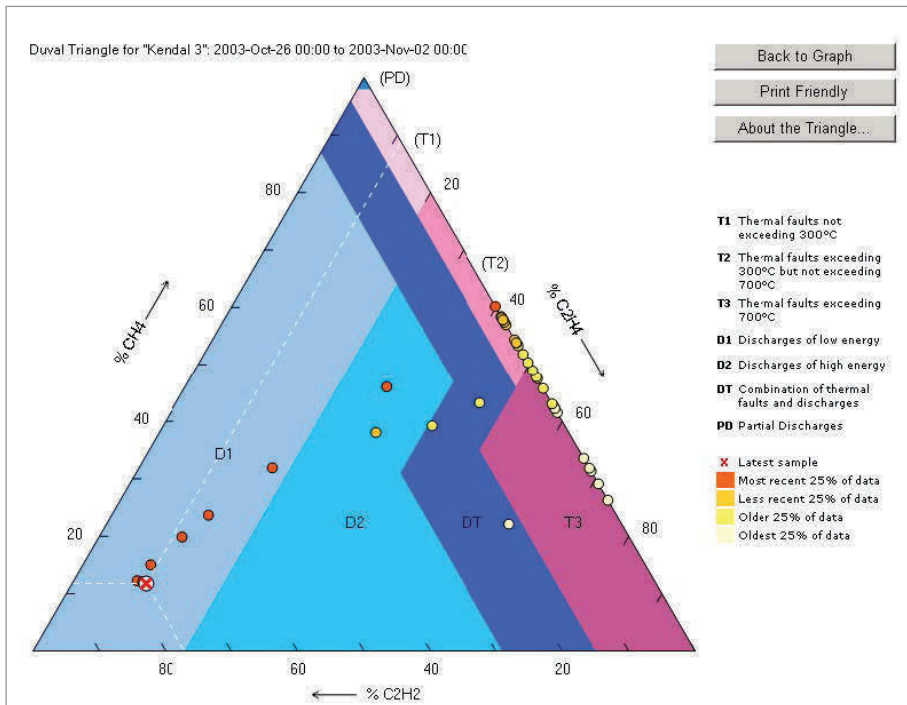


Figure 6 PHASE 2 - C02 PD POW SIGNAL



ONLINE DGA CASE #1



The Duval Triangle is a DGA tool included in the IEC 60599 Gas Guide.

HV LEAD CORONA RING SHIELD CONNECTION

(note burn mark on corona ring material & eroded bolt)

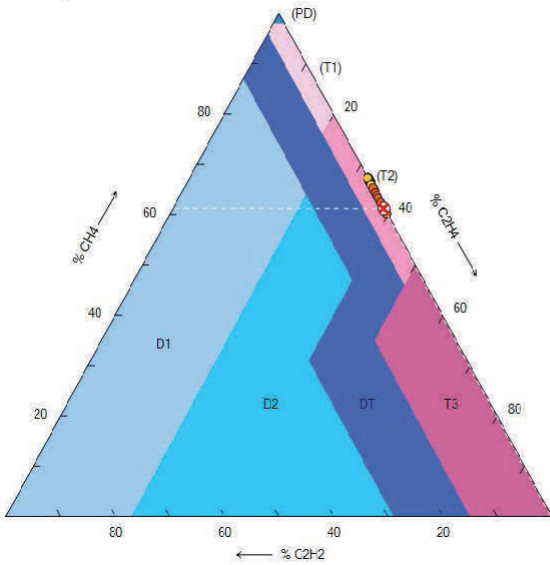
- > The Duval Triangle shows problem evolving from a T3 Thermal Fault to D1 Discharge of low energy.
- > Intermittent grounding was provided by the fastening bolt causing a transient potential rise and subsequent discharges occurring between the corona ring and the main tank ground point.
- > An on-site repair was performed and the transformer was returned to service.



ONLINE DGA CASE #2

Analysis

Duval Triangle for Dresden 2 from 8/24/2005 12:00:00 AM to 8/31/2005 12:00:00 AM



- T1 Thermal faults not exceeding 300°C
- T2 Thermal faults exceeding 300°C but not exceeding 700°C
- T3 Thermal faults exceeding 700°C
- D1 Discharges of low energy
- D2 Discharges of high energy
- DT Combination of thermal faults and discharges
- PD Partial Discharges

- × Latest Sample
- Most recent 25% of data
- Less recent 25% of data
- Older 25% of data
- Oldest 25% of data

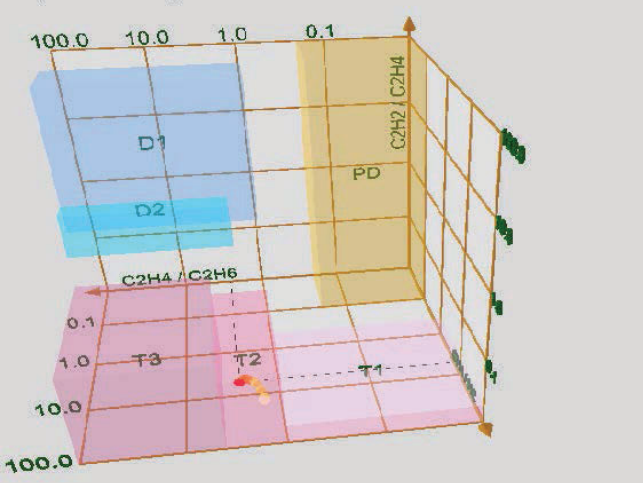
1. Both the Duval Triangle and Rogers Ratio analysis shows the fault condition is in T2 indicating a thermal problem getting worse in the range of 300°C to 700°C

2. Combustible gas levels were rising very quickly, exceeding preset rate of change limits. Transformer load reduction began approximately 32 hours after levels began to change and was fully de-energized within approximately 52 hours

3. Root cause; Overheating of LV crimped connections caused by the combination of high eddy losses in the crimps & over-insulation + poor oil circulation in crimped bundled areas.

The Duval Triangle is a DGA tool included in the IEC 60599 Gas Guide.

Displaying 42 of 42 data points. Marked point: 8/30/2005 4:00:03 PM. Using IEC-60599 region definitions. Valid points: 41. Out of range: 0. Zero denominator: 1.

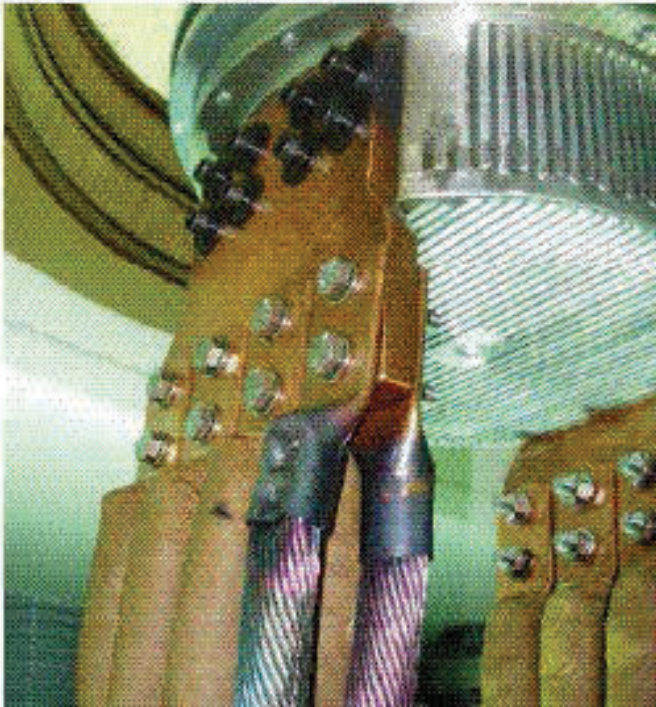


- T1 Thermal faults not exceeding 300°C
- T2 Thermal faults between 300°C and 700°C
- T3 Thermal faults exceeding 700°C
- D1 Discharges of low energy
- D2 Discharges of high energy
- PD Partial Discharges (IEC definition only)
- OK Normal (IEEE definition only)

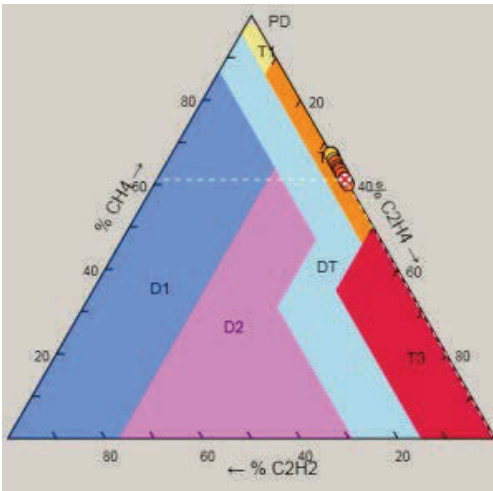
- Most Recent Sample
- Most recent 25% of data
- Less recent 25% of data
- Older 25% of data
- Oldest 25% of data

Rogers Ratios are included in IEEE 57.104 Gas Guide (similar to Basic Gas Ratios in IEC-60599)

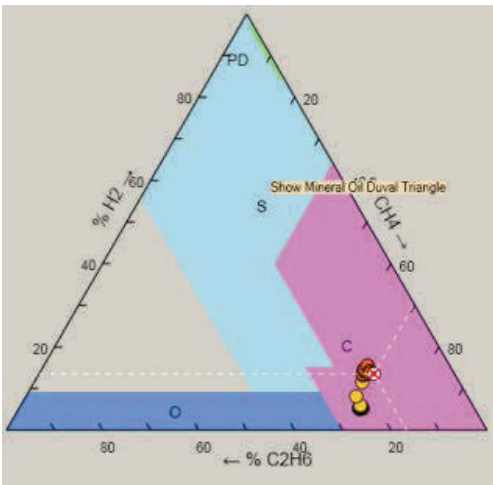
ONLINE DGA CASE #2



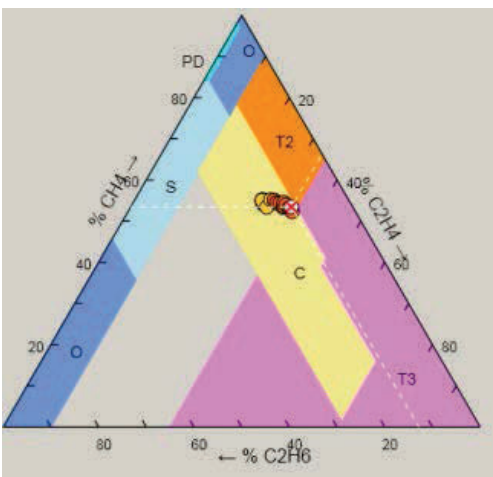
ONLINE DGA CASE #2



Triangle 1: T2 Fault



Triangle 4: Paper Fault

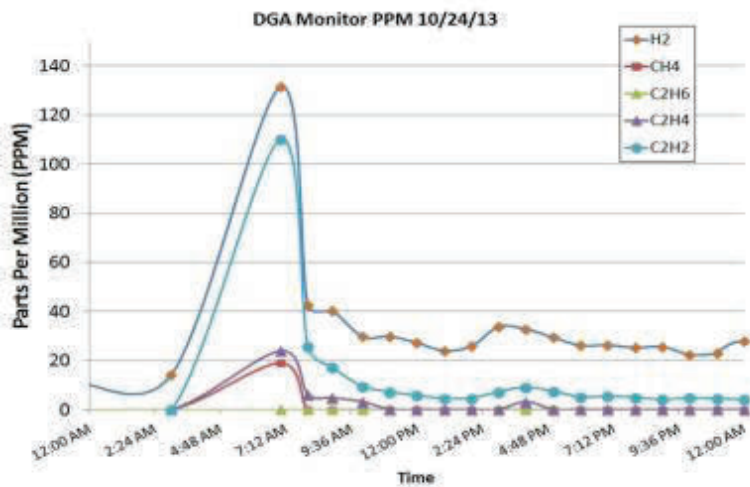


Triangle 5: Paper Fault



LCRA – DGA CASE #3

- > Auto 345/138/13.2 kV, 480 MVA
- > 4 years in service
- > Loaded to about 50% of nameplate during peak conditions
- > No previous issues during factory testing, field testing, or service
- > At 8:33 a.m. a substation maintenance personnel reported an alarm from the multi-gas DGA monitor: C₂H₂ = 25.6 PPM
- > At 1:23 p.m. the DGA was complete and showed no changes
- > 2:21 p.m. personnel reported strange temperature readings
- > Neither of the monitor alarms was perceived to be an indication of transformer failure
- > 1:00 a.m. the auto tripped.
- > Annunciator indicated high top oil temp and high winding temp only





LCRA – DGA CASE #3

- > The station service power at this location is fed from the tertiary of the auto. No backup SS was available
- > This necessitated the need to have the tertiary SS source
- > 4:00 p.m. Trip contacts from the temperature monitor were bypassed and auto was energized from the low side (X) only
- > 4:56 p.m. Transformer trips offline on current differential
- > RPR relay, gas accumulation, pressure relief devices
- > Internal inspection and diagnostic testing determined this to be a phase-phase fault likely caused by contamination or insulation breakdown

UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE

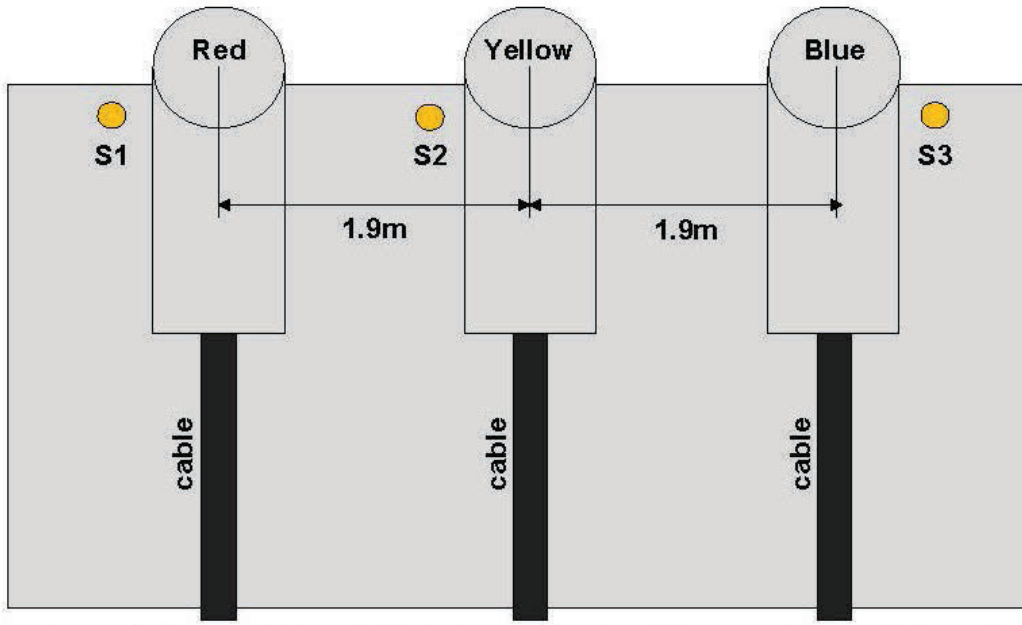
- > Onsite measurement was carried out to investigate PD sources on a 230/66kV 150MVA transformer
- > Situation:
 - Transformer is equipped with 3 UHF PD sensors (as retrofit project)
 - Integrated into GIS PD monitoring system
 - DGA is showing constant PD activity



PD SENSOR LOCATION 1:

- Sensor not protruding into the main tank
- Limited sensitivity
- PD can be still detected

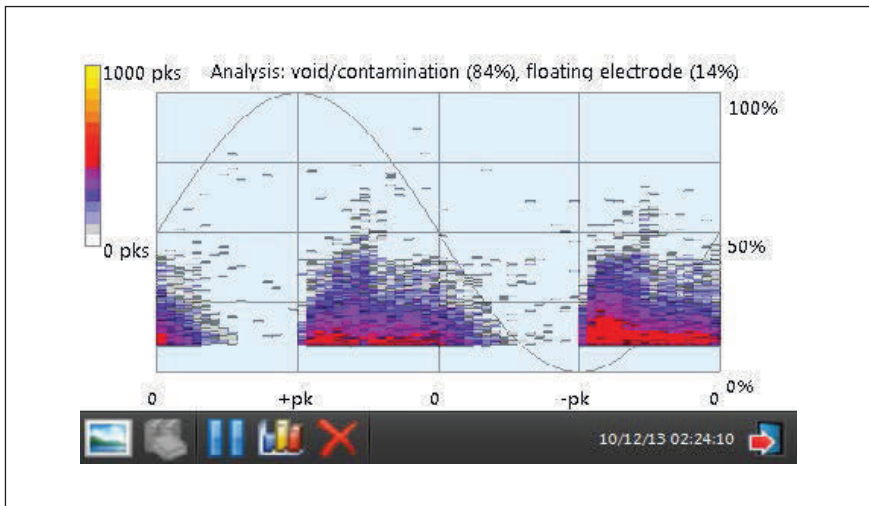
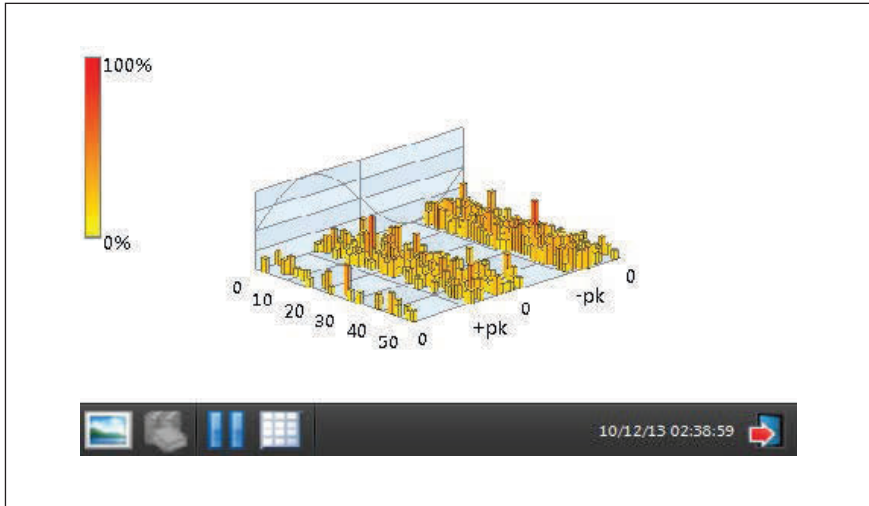
UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE



Transformer Layout: Sensor S1 and S2 having 1.9 meter distance.
Sensor S2 and S3 having about 2.5meter distance



UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE

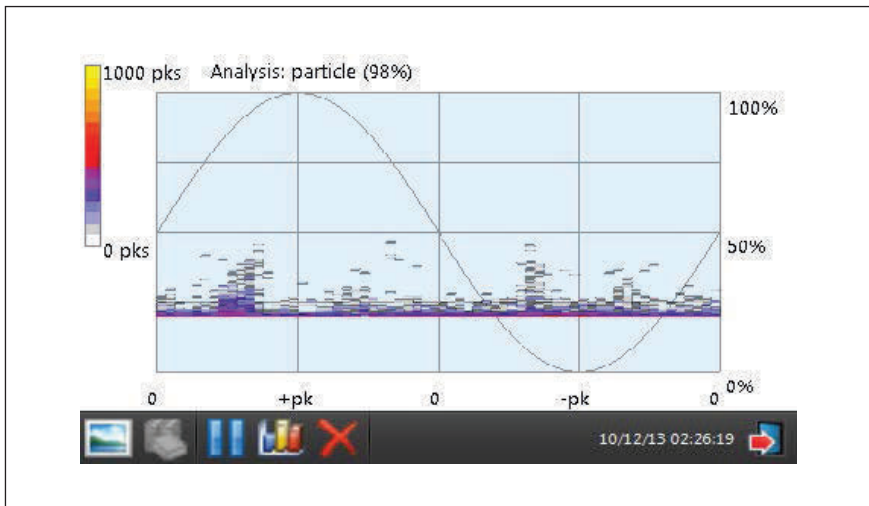
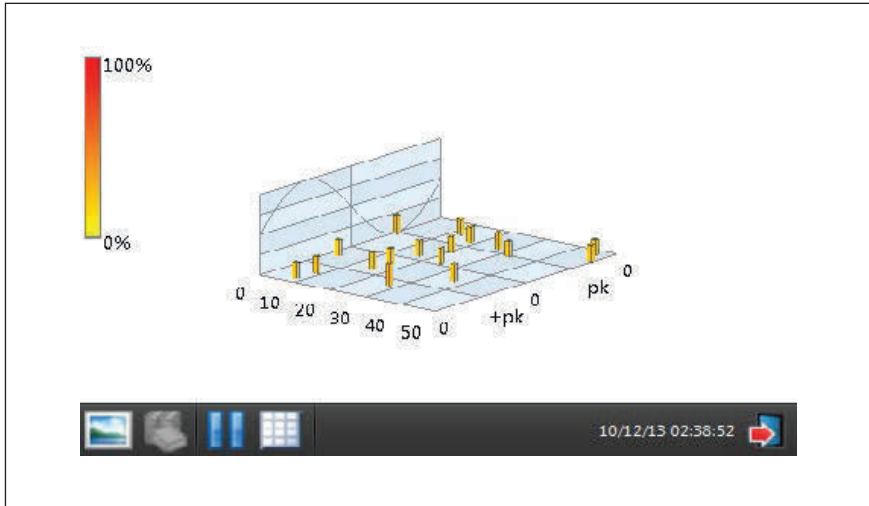


3D and PRPD pattern measured at S1 (Phase Red) with portable PDM is showing the same PD as recorded also with the connected monitoring system.

**Conclusion out of that measurement:
Sensor 1 (red phase) is detecting active PD!**



UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE

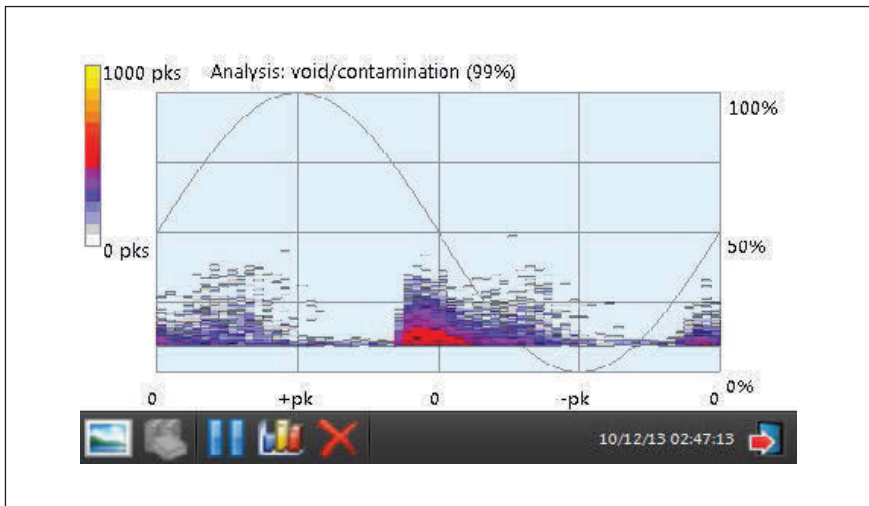
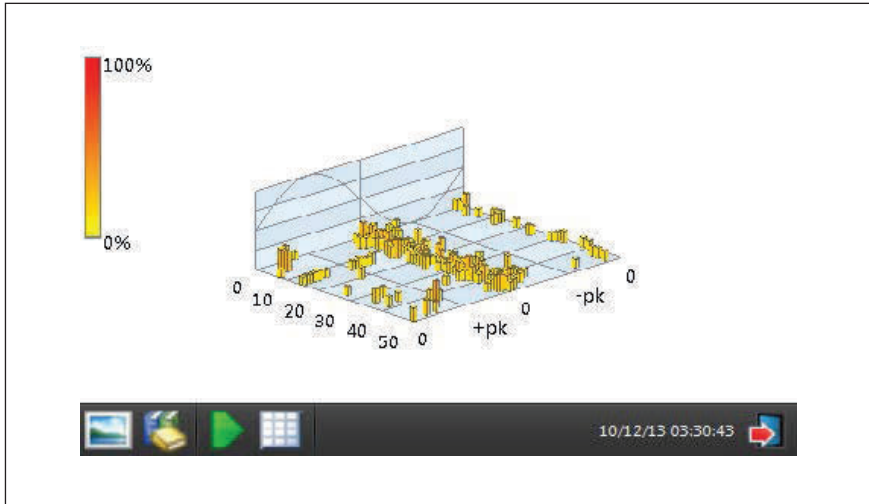


3D and PRPD pattern measured at S2 (Phase Yellow) with portable PDM is showing small phase related signals.

**Conclusion out of that measurement:
Sensor 2 (phase yellow) is detecting active PD most probably from phase red and blue!**



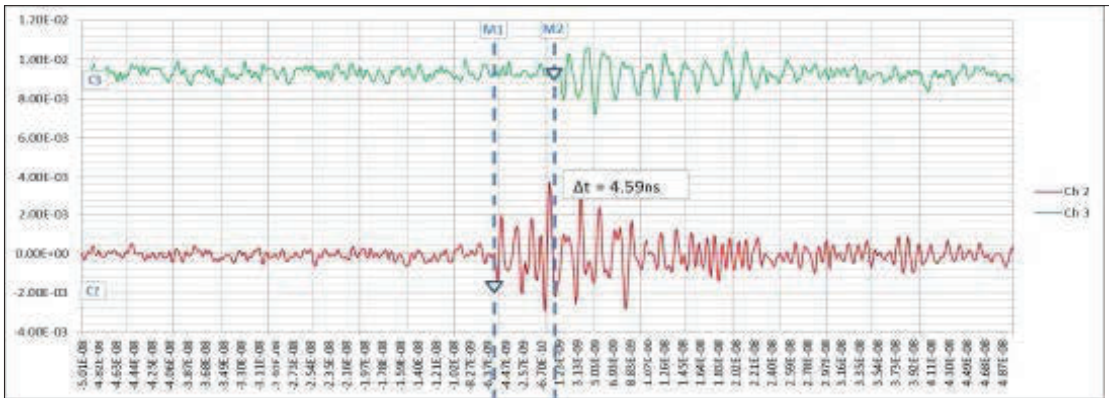
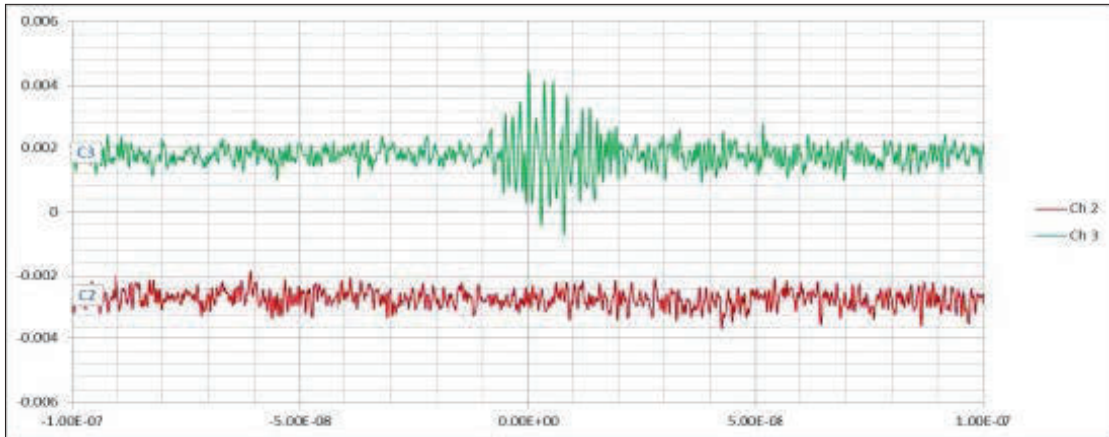
UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE



3D and PRPD pattern measured at S3 (Phase Blue) with portable PDM is showing the same PD as recorded also with connected monitoring system.

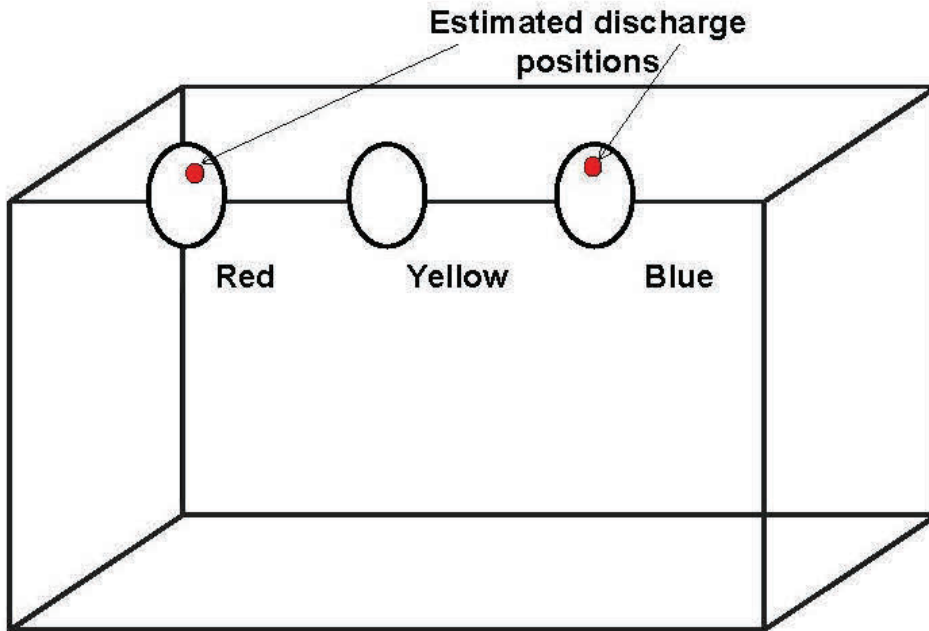
**Conclusion out of that measurement:
Sensor 3 (Phase Blue) is detecting active PD!**

UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE



It was decided to conduct a time of flight measurement in order to get a better idea about the risk of the detected PD. The time of flight measurement showed that there were two independent PD sources active. The localization by using the time of flight data showed, that the discharges were originated close to the Red and Blue oil/ oil- bushing. As the discharge is stable and monitored by UHF PD and online DGA, it was decided to further monitor this discharge until a change will happen.

UHF PD MONITORING EXAMPLE



DECISION:

AS THE DISCHARGE IS NOT CHANGING AND MONITORING IS CONNECTED, NO FURTHER ACTIONS, JUST MONITOR THE TRANSFORMER



FO TEMPERATURE MONITORING TO SUPPORT OVERLOADING

ECONOMIC BENEFITS, TEMPERATURE OVERLOADING, AN EXAMPLE (2 SLIDES)

1	Transformer rated power (MVA)	100
2	Overloading margin made available by monitoring (%)	10
3	Probability of overloading opportunity (hr/year)	450
4	Financial benefit from energy transmitted (\$/MWh)	80
Yearly benefit from extra loading (1 x 2 x 3 x 4)		\$360,000



FO TEMPERATURE MONITORING TO SUPPORT OVERLOADING

ECONOMIC BENEFITS, TEMPERATURE OVERLOADING, AN EXAMPLE (2 SLIDES)

5	Replacement cost of transformer (\$)	2,000,000
6	Transformer normal life duration (hours)	150,000
7	Additional aging factor at 110% load (125°C)	3.4
	Cost for additional loss of life $((5 / 6) \times 7 \times 3)$	= \$20,400

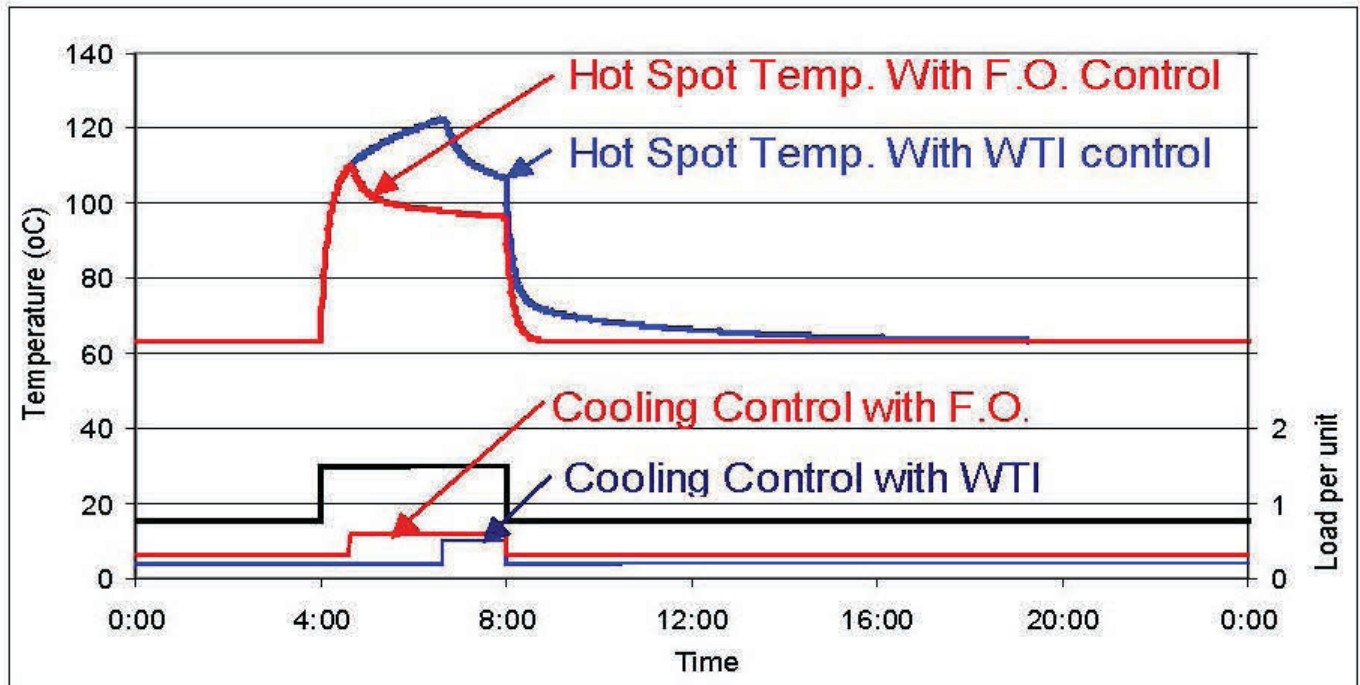
**Net yearly benefit from overloading:
\$360,000 - \$20,400 = \$339,600**



FO TEMPERATURE MONITORING FOR COOLING CONTROL

Comparison of Control Efficiency with WTI and F.O. Control

Information: Cooling control set at 110 oC





FO TEMPERATURE MONITORING FOR COOLING CONTROL

Insulation Aging, Estimation Base on Top Oil and Bottom Oil Models

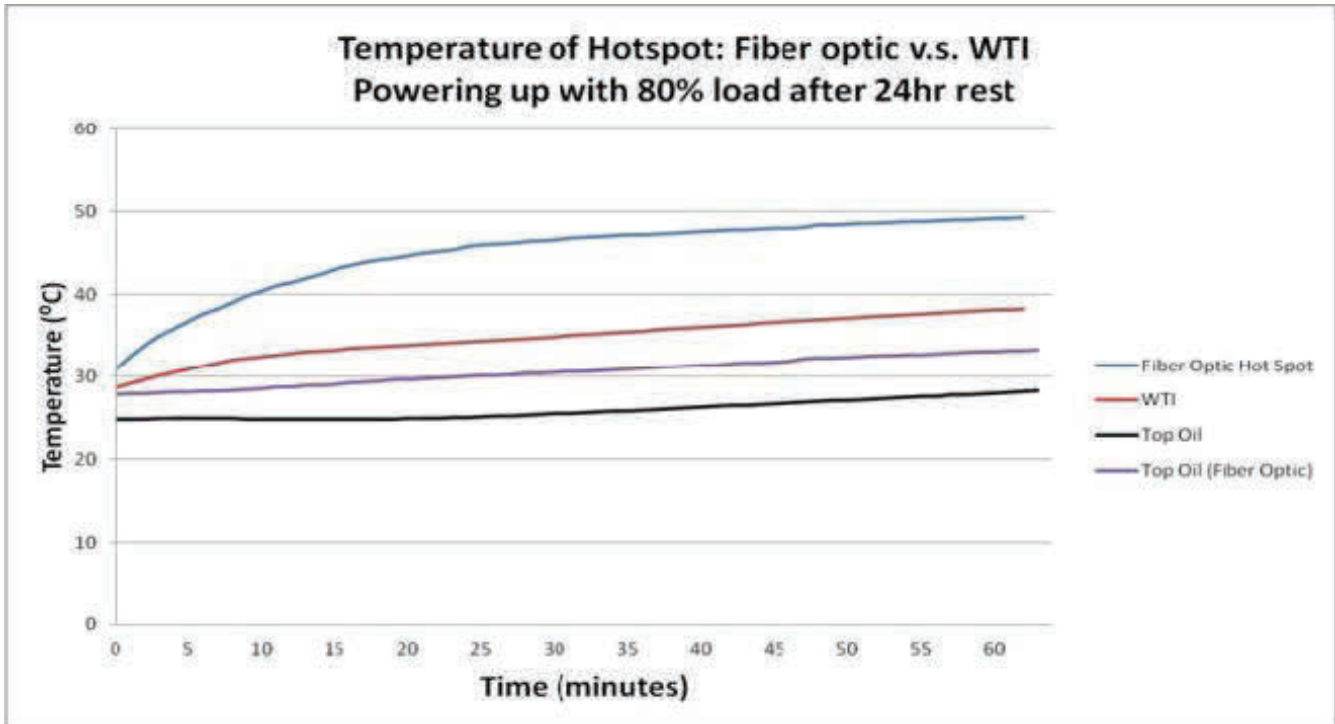
POOR HOT SPOT TEMPERATURE KNOWLEDGE LEADS TO UNDERESTIMATION OF INSULATION AGING

- > 3.3 hours, if cooling control is made on WTI
- > 10.7 hours, if based on FO hot spot sensor



FO TEMPERATURE MONITORING DURING HEAT RUN

Another example of a heatrun test



Notes: These measurements were made on a phase-shifting transformer, used in a aluminum smelter. These transformers are known to exhibit very non-linear heating problems, which are very difficult to calculate or simulate. This is a good example about the usefulness of fiber sensing in power transformers !



CHALLENGES IN CONDITION MONITORING AND NEW TRENDS

- > Challenge
- > New Trends
- > What we want to achieve with Condition Monitoring?
- > It's all about data
- > Condition Monitoring Trends Summary

TRANSFORMER MONITORING EXAMPLES

CONCLUSION



SUMMARY

- > The previous cases are showing examples how and why users are using online condition monitoring (prevention of failures, prediction of overload conditions, insulation life time calculations).
- > The examples also showing that the trust into online monitoring solutions needs to be increased. This can be done by:
 - Using up-to-date data analyses and providing the user with easy to understand information instead of overwhelming him with a high number of scattered data and false alarms.
 - Correlating online and offline data in order to increase confidence in the assessment
 - Selecting parameters with respect to importance of the transformer/ asset, its failure history and the problem which should be detected.
- > Upcoming and promising technologies in online monitoring are UHF partial discharge monitoring, Further above two examples are showing already the effectiveness. Further there will be a change in the technology of bushing monitoring as more accuracy is demanded. The technology will move to use voltage references from the same phase in order to increase the accuracy to enable the detection of moisture already in a very early stage.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

Contact us info@qualitrolcorp.com