

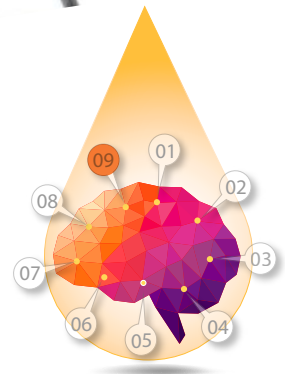


STOP SPINNING YOUR WHEELS.

How to Get Moving Toward More
Proactive, Data-Driven Maintenance.



SENSEI - LUBRICATION PIECE OF MIND SERIES - PART 9





Stop us if this scenario sounds familiar.

Manufacturing techs spend the first several hours of their day going around and just looking at pieces of equipment – checking for leaks, topping off oil, taking heat readings, etc.

It's hard to blame them. They may have no other way of knowing what's going on inside their machines. If this is the situation in your facility, it's time to ask: Can your organization afford to accept these routine, non-value-added activities? Isn't it time to move from fighting fires to taking preventive, productive action?



WHAT DATA CAN DO FOR YOUR OPERATION

Too many companies today are not using equipment data to their advantage. That's why accessing and applying relevant data has the potential to give your operation a significant edge.

Think of the possibilities. New technologies are increasingly capable of monitoring, collecting and transmitting all kinds of data regarding machine performance. In the case of lubrication, parameters could include temperature, viscosity, level of the oil and more.

Pairing this monitoring with expert analysis could help you:

- Identify machines that need attention and why, so you can go directly to a problem instead of making routine rounds

- Uncover trends, enabling you to continuously fine-tune equipment performance
- Anticipate failure/malfunction risks based on changing operating modes – so you can prevent problems before they occur

In other words, data could go a long way toward instilling a greater sense of confidence on your team. So, how do you become more data driven? Let's take a look.

3 PHASES OF PUTTING DATA TO GOOD USE IN YOUR FACILITY



Without good data, maintenance techs spend much of their day wandering from machine to machine. Data monitoring and analytics can provide more focused direction – only to equipment that needs attention.

1. Start collecting data.

The truth is, few companies are even collecting much data related to equipment lubrication. It's understandable; good data can be hard to get from machines in operation. And too much data is as worthless as no data at all.

Instead, employees continue to make rounds with, say, grease guns, over-filling or under-filling machines – with no way to know the difference.

The Industrial Internet of Things, connected devices and data analysis together have the potential to put these inefficient tasks in the past. The first hurdle is simply to get started.

Bearing in Mind Good Data

Some 60% of bearings fail due to over-heating. Without good data, you might not catch the problem until the third failure stage in vibration readings. Real-time data might help you catch it in stage 1 – reducing failures by 50% to 60%.

3 PHASES OF PUTTING DATA TO GOOD USE IN YOUR FACILITY (Continued)



2. Make the right connections.

Being data driven is about a lot more than just taking readings. It's about what you can make of the data. Continuous monitoring and interpretation can reveal all sorts of crucial issues.

Some examples related to lubrication data:

Viscosity. If it's increasing, you may have thermal cracking or other degradation. Decreasing? That may be contamination from a solvent or a refrigerant – or possibly the wrong lubricant was added.

Acidity. Rising acidity suggests a failure involving oil additives sulfur or phosphorus. If it decreases it tells you you're having a chemical reaction.

Temperature. Generally speaking, anything over 180F is cause for concern, and over 200F is a red alert. One of many possible causes is that you're short on oil.

3. Act on the data.

It's one thing to collect and analyze data. It's another thing entirely to do something effective or proactive with it.

If you're only reacting to a value in a red-alert range, you aren't going to prevent much. And just as a fever will tell you something is wrong – but won't tell you exactly what – a single data point such as temperature won't reveal a root cause.

Greater value comes from cross-referencing data across multiple variables to pinpoint a problem and its best solution. Getting this actionable information integrated into daily tasks (through a CMMS, for example) may be the most essential element of data collection efforts.



TURNING DATA TO YOUR ADVANTAGE



What we need in the industry is a level of automatic interpretation and guidance – sort of the equipment maintenance equivalent of an alert on your car’s dashboard telling you to, for example, add air to your right rear tire.

Occasional readings from today’s handheld devices won’t get us there. To really get ahead, the industry needs to be collecting real-time data on multiple variables from machines in process, and then analyzing that data to identify root causes, trends, preventive actions, etc. Of course, that isn’t easy. But help is on the way ...

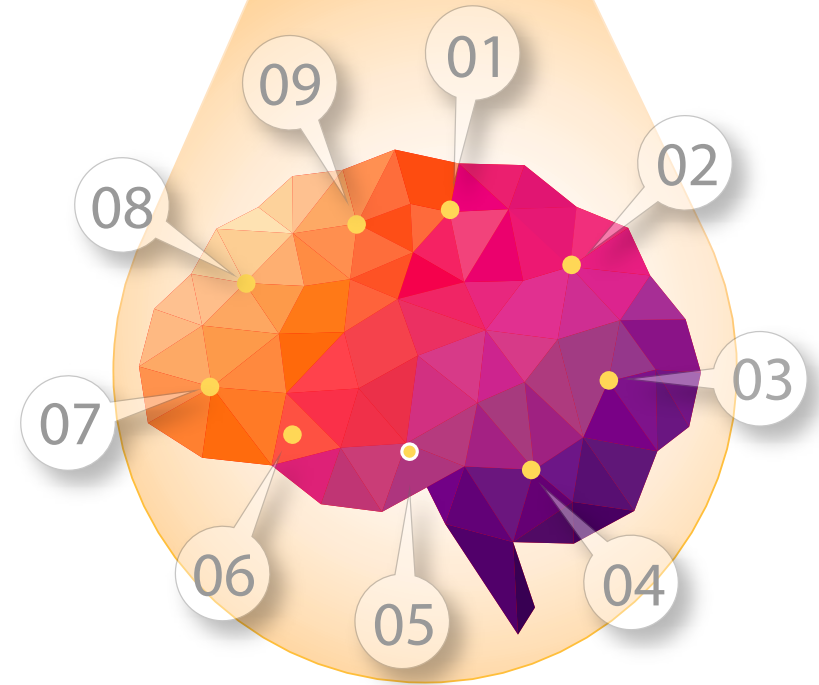


A NEW WAY TO ACHIEVE "PIECE" OF MIND

Are you overwhelmed by these data challenges? We think it's time you got a new Sensei of confidence. Trico is about to introduce the industry's first real-time lubrication intelligence system. It's going to help you sense what's happening in your equipment, and know what to do about it, without going to the machine.

Want a sneak peek?

[Click here](#)





F E A R

Everything it Takes to Turn Knowledge into Confidence.

When you've been around lubrication for nearly a century like we have, you learn a few things along the way. About products. About training. About processes. But mostly, about the fear that comes when someone doesn't know for sure that everything will go the way it needs to. And that's why this is never **just** about products. It's about getting rid of fear and knowing for certain that lubrication will be the solution, not another problem. We want you to be confident. We want you to have no fear.

[Learn more](#)