Monolec[®] R & O Compressor / Turbine Oil (6401)

Chemical Company – Augusta, Ga. Roots Dresser Centrifugal Compressor

- Saved more than \$80,000 in Babbitt bearings
- Extended oil drain intervals from 6 months to more than 2 years

Customer Profile

This Chemical company is the largest North American producer of Aluminum Sulfate (Alum) and the leading supplier of iron salts and enhanced coagulants, all used for treating drinking, process and wastewater. They have been an LE customer since 1997.

Application

A Roots Dresser centrifugal compressor is used 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to supply air for the plants processing of Aluminum Sulfate (Alum).

Challenge

Using Teresstic 46 in their Roots Dresser centrifugal compressor, the chemical company had to change the oil two times a year. Oil analysis showed a very high metal wear rate and the compressor Babbitt bearings failed every 1 to 2 years. The bearings cost \$10,000 each. It took several hours to change the bearings and the down time lost was considerable. Sometimes it took several days to get the compressor back up and running.

LE Solution

Monolec[®] R & O Compressor / Turbine Oil (6401) was recommended for this application. Lubrication Engineers Analysis Program (LEAP[™]) is used to monitor the oil. Using LEAP, the chemical company can monitor the condition of the oil and schedule oil changes at their convenience. A Roots Dresser service technician came and inspected the unit. He stated that it was one of the cleanest units he had ever seen and wanted to know what was in the oil.

Results

This chemical company has estimated that they have saved more than \$80,000 in Babbitt bearings alone. Drain interval are now monitored more closely and LEAP oil analysis is used to determine when to change the oil, increasing the turn around time during shut downs. Intervals have increased from 6 months to more than 2 years.

Thank you to Alan Hampton, plant manager, Kenneth Adams, maintenance manager, and to Mark Jones, LE lubrication consultant (pictured), for providing the information used in this report.





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Based on actual user experience. Individual results may vary. Not intended to supersede manufacturer specifications.

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