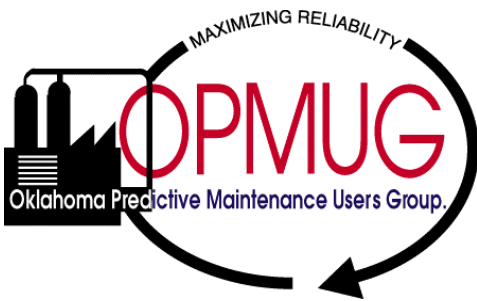


Our Vision:

To be recognized as the premier organization dedicated to maximizing operational reliability.



OPMUG

Newsletter

January -February 2009

A Not-For-Profit Corporation

Our Mission:

Provide a forum for maintenance information exchange to all industries that can benefit from improved equipment reliability through networking, demonstration, benchmarking and leveraged training.

February 2009 Program

1-Day Program:

“Root Cause Failure Analysis”

Sponsored by: FailSafe Network Inc.
February 4th, 2009

Continental Breakfast 8:30 am-9:00 am
Program: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MERIDIAN TECHNOLOGY CENTER
1312 S. SANGRE RD
STILLWATER, OK

To register visit www.opmug.net or
contact Jeff Forquer
jefff@meridian-technology.com
(405) 377-3333 x 251

Are You IR Challenged?

By Gregory R. Stockton, President SITS Inc.

Think of the world as one gigantic radiator. The transfer of energy happens everywhere around us. We can see it with eyes no one else has. To the interested, inquisitive, infrared thermographer, getting paid to walk around and look at things with an IR camera is a dream come true. Those of you bitten by the IR bug know what I mean. Applications for infrared thermography seem endless.

Checking switchgear for hot spots-no other application for infrared thermography is so well proven, documented, written and talked about, easier to sell to management, or easier to perform. It is what the majority of all infrared thermographers do for a living.

The maintenance world has come to terms with the fact that:

- Electrical resistance equals heat
- Excess electrical resistance equals excess heat
- Excess heat is bad (indicates potential failure)
- Excess heat can be seen with an IR camera
- A useful IR report of a problem can be generated so that repairs can be accomplished on an electrical component prior to failure.

(continued on page 2)

OPMUG 2009 Upcoming Event Calendar

March 2 nd – 6 th	March 31 st	April 1 st
Thermography Level I	Machine Lubrication Level I	Motor Failure Analysis
Training	Training	Program





Thermography (continued from page 1)

It has been extremely well documented that annual and/or semi-annual IR inspections produce a large return on a small investment. The insurance industry has discovered this fact and of late, is promoting, recommending, and in some cases requiring that the insured perform infrared surveys on a regular basis.

Mechanical PM

For every piece of electrical equipment, there are five mechanical components that can be checked using IR. Instead of resistance, heat is promulgated by friction. Just as electrical resistance equals heat, mechanical friction equals heat. However, IR/PM on mechanical equipment is more difficult to perform, since there are many more variables that produce friction than with electrical switchgear producing resistance.

To continue reading this article click [here](#), used by permission from Stockton Infrared Thermographic Services Inc. Greg Stockton has over 25 years experience in the construction industry specializing in facilities construction, maintenance and energy-related technologies.
(<http://www.stocktoninfrared.com/PUBLISHED/Greg's%20IR%20Info%202002.htm>)

Letter from the President

In this tough economy, OPMUG can help more than ever.

OPMUG can help your company reduce costs by keeping you up to date on improving plant reliability by attending OPMUG's FREE bi-monthly programs. Reduce high training costs by attending OPMUG national-caliber training classes at reduced fees (usually 50% savings due to State of Oklahoma Grants).

Save travel money by not traveling out of state to get the same training.

Become an OPMUG member today. Just go to our home page and hit the "Join" button or email or call Jason at JWright@ncra.coop (620-241-9159).

If you have comments, or would like to share your thoughts do not hesitate to call or email me: Bryan Henderson 888-216-3519 or bwhenderson@aep.com



This Issue's Safety Reminder

Infrared Thermographic Inspection Safety

Safety Considerations While Working with IR Inspections

At the time of publication, there appears to be nothing that prohibits the infrared inspection of electrical distribution systems under the current Occupational Safety and Health Act and its related Occupational Safety and Health Standards. Confusion among thermographers most likely occurs in the misquoting/misunderstanding of information or application of the incorrect standard.

It is imperative that workers conduct pre-work safety briefings and understand the OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910 subpart S along with Lock-out Tag-out procedures when investigating suspicious targets. Of course, familiarity with the NFPA 70 guidelines is critical.

1910.332 Training requires that qualified persons who work on energized equipment be trained in and familiar with the safety-related work practices as required by 1910.331 through 1910.335 that pertain to their respective job assignments. They should also be familiar with:

- ***The skills and techniques necessary to distinguish live parts from other parts of electric equipment.***
- ***(ii) The skills and techniques necessary to determine the nominal voltage of exposed live parts, and***
- ***(iii) The clearance distances specified in 1910.335 (c) to which the qualified person will be exposed.***

Under **1910.333**, qualified persons must also be familiar with the proper use of special precautionary techniques, personal protective equipment, insulating and shielding materials, and insulated tools. (*Continued on page 3*)



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Safety Reminder (continued from page 2)

While some of the requirements may seem cumbersome, many appear to be common-sense principles. Thermographers and their employers must identify which OSH Standards apply to their work and ensure that they are in compliance. Failure to comply can result in serious fines and criminal penalties.

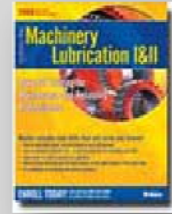


OPMUG 2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

A special thanks to our corporate members:



4-Day Training Event:



"Machine Lubrication Level I"

March 31st-April 2nd 2009

Certification Exam on the 3rd if desired

Hosted by



Membership Dues

Just a reminder of the types of memberships and their prices.

Individual/Corporate -----\$100 per person/year
(Up to 4 members \$400)

Corporate -----\$500/year
(Unlimited number of members)

Tell a friend about OPMUG! Our group is only as strong as its members. Help us grow by sending this newsletter or flyers to organizations or businesses that may be interested in attending our events.

Guest Policy

OPMUG has a guest policy for general meetings that permits potential members or interested parties to attend a limited number of meetings. Non-members may attend one general meeting without being members. (General meetings are one-day meetings on the first Wednesday of even months). This permits potential members the opportunity to observe the quality of OPMUG presentations prior to joining.