



LUBRICATION ASSESSMENT

**FOR MORE EFFECTIVE AND COST-EFFICIENT
LUBRICANT USE**



IMPORTANCE OF LUBRICATION PRACTICES

Nowadays many companies allocate significant resources in improving production reliability which is the key tool of maintaining competitiveness. But sometimes the need to improve lubrication practices does not receive sufficient attention. We often see our customers' employees tasked with machine lubrication do not have appropriate professional knowledge, as a result they assign less importance to their lubrication tasks.

There is always an acceptable explanation for most inadequacies. Changes in lubrication practices are usually going on by small steps. They can be derived from the replacement of equipments with new or used units, ageing of existing equipments, changing runtimes of various units, changing machine loads, etc. Implementation of these small steps in lubrication instructions and everyday practice is often failed. Sooner or later these unimplemented changes will result in the overall revision of lubrication practices.

Base of effective lubrication is providing a lubricant with the appropriate characteristics:

- At the right place
- In the sufficient quantity
- At the desired time
- In the expected quality
- From the appropriate supplier.

ARE THESE CRITERIA BEING MET AT YOUR COMPANY?

The assessment of lubrication practices is not restricted into only one unequivocally important question whether lubricants filled in various machines are appropriate or not. World class lubrication management means much more. Lubrication management is a complex system of activities and processes aligned with each other. With implementation of a professional lubrication management system the lubricants can increase reliability and cost-efficiency of production or without it, they can worsen these important figures.



ELEMENTS OF LUBRICATION MANAGEMENT

Almost every company confidently believes that their processes run perfectly and their people responsible for lubrication always do their job with the highest accuracy and precision. But what will happen if the assigned tasks are failed because

- maintenance staff follows incorrect instructions (e.g. based on former lubricant selection) when they fill up a machine with lubricants
 - re-lubrication periods are inappropriate
 - lubricant samples taken from sampling points do not represent reliably the condition of lubricant and equipment?
- ... and we can continue for long the list of these worrying questions.

Updating, improvement and development of lubrication related activities of industrial companies can be fulfilled in several stages.

1. Lube assessment

Level of company's lubrication activities and their suitability to the company's industrial activities will emerge as a result of the lubrication management's assessment.

2. Lubrication audit

Proposals to be implemented in order to achieve a world class and effective lubrication management system are made during the lubrication audit.

LUBE ASSESSMENT

When lubrication management is subjected to evaluation, it has to cover all crucial elements of lubricants in use:

- Lubricant purchasing practices
- Lubricant storage and handling
- Storage and updating of lubricant related documents
- Regular revision and rationalisation of lubricant portfolio
- Regular assessment of suppliers
- Sampling method of lubricant sumps
- Lubricant tests, documentation and use of results
- Contamination control and management
- Lubrication and re- lubrication practices
- Development of programmes for improving lubricant use and managing their implementation: process descriptions, work instructions, targets, performance indicators, etc.
- Training courses
- Health, Safety and Environment practices

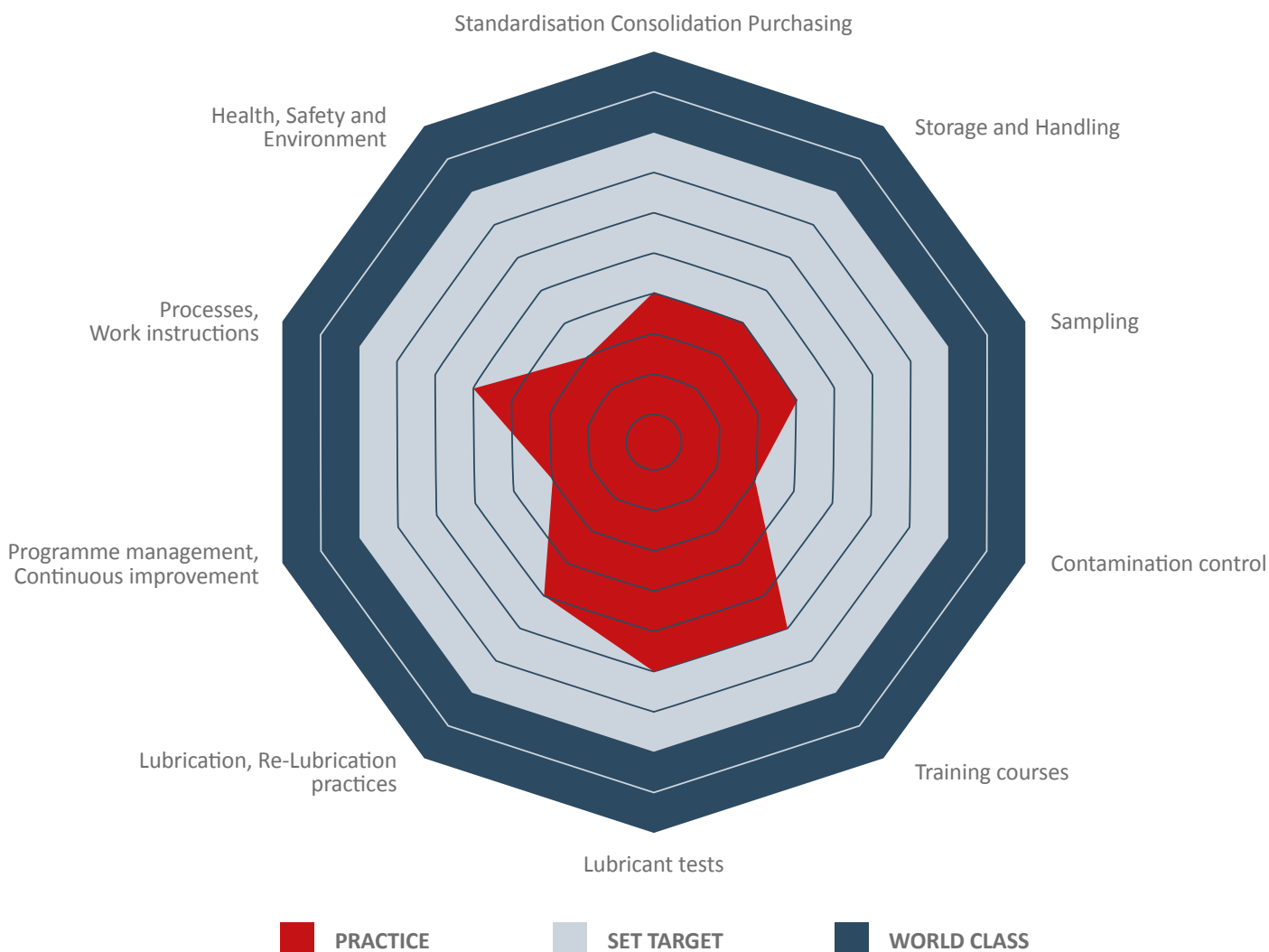


QUESTIONS RELATING TO LUBRICANT USE MUST BE REVIEWED FROM TIME TO TIME!

Survey of activities in connection with lubricant use is made through check-list by our specialists. Questions have to be answered by the maintenance manager or his staff charged with lubrication tasks. It is recommended to make the survey at the production site where lubricating equipment and the working methods applied can be checked.

This comprehensive survey provides excellent input for evaluation of strengths and weaknesses. Current practices can be benchmarked with the best (world class) practices which can be defined as target to be achieved. We make a detailed report on survey results that most important statements are also illustrated in spider web charts. As a result of the survey current state of lubrication management can be documented. The survey will be the starting point of our proposals for short-, medium- and long-term actions aimed at changing inappropriate practices.

**Lube assessment is the first step
towards understanding the reasons of malfunctions.**





BENEFITS OF LUBRICATION ASSESSMENT

- Financing cost of lubricant stock decreases
- Lubricant supplier management processes become simpler
- Possibility of using incorrect lubricants can be precluded
- Lubricant storage and handling is simplified and becomes more efficient
- Introduction of maintenance based on LubCheck oil diagnostic results (indirect machinery condition monitoring)
- Introduction of professional sampling methods; use of appropriate testing methods
- Training of staff charged with lubrication tasks; improvement of lubrication; follow-up of lubrication practices

OUR FURTHER LUBRICANT SERVICES INCLUDE:

Lubrication technology consulting
LubCheck oil and machine diagnostics
On-site lubricant maintenance
Lubrication technology audit
Fluid management
Training courses



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