



Brüel & Kjær Vibro

A member of the NSK Group

B&K Vibro field monitor lights the way for modernizing a traditional industry plant

Success Story



There are still many plants in Asia that are run in labor intensive traditional ways. Although there is an appeal among many consumers for the old-fashioned ways of making household and personal products, there is also commercial pressure to deliver products efficiently, reliably and safely with optimal quality. Therefore, plant modernization is taking place in many traditional industries, including in China.



Figure 1. Completely modernized plant.

Condition monitoring is part of the plant modernization

The Hongta Liaoning Tobacco company's Shenyang cigarette factory is one such traditional factory. This plant has been extensively modernized to improve productivity, reduce maintenance costs and reduce workload. Implementing an effective machine condition monitoring solution was one part of the modernization project to reduce the total cost of ownership for the plant's production assets. The intention was to focus on a cost-effective, easy to install field monitor solution rather than a rack-based system. Only fans were to be monitored at the plant, an example of which is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Typical fan monitored at the plant.

Complete stand-alone condition monitoring solution



Figure 3. Three VDAU field monitors are installed in this cabinet.

VDAU 6000, a previous version of the VCM-3 provided by Brüel & Kjær Vibro was selected by management to fulfill the important condition monitoring task of keeping an eye on the healthcare of the fans (Figure 3). Because some of the fans were critical, it was decided to extend VDAU 6000 units with B&K Vibro's condition monitoring software Compass 6000 and database.



As a customized add-on, this software provides complete database search and trending capability as well as alarming functionality, as shown in Figure 4. The Compass server also provides machine fault analysis capability for more advanced diagnostics. Even the B&K Vibro VIBROTEST 80 portable analyzer is used for diagnostics on some machines. The Compass server also sends alarm information to the DCS system operators, otherwise the monitoring system is stand-alone and completely independent from other systems.

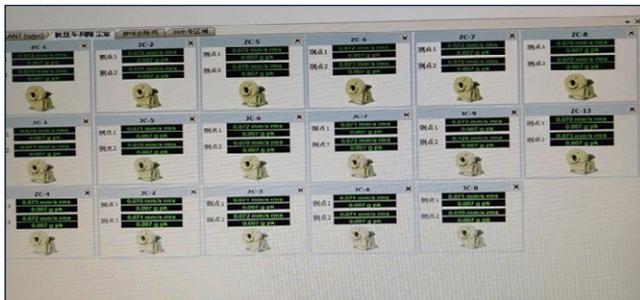


Figure 4. Screen shot showing an overview of the fans monitored in a particular section of the plant.

Results

As seen in the [video](#) with the Plant Manager, the B&K Vibro field monitor has successfully fulfilled all expectations. It has improved production efficiency, reduced maintenance costs, eliminated unneeded inspection time, and improved asset management decision making for optimizing machine operation and maintenance.

This traditional plant still maintains the high product quality expected by consumers, but now delivers its products more efficiently and reliably after extensive modernization and implementing effective asset management together with the condition monitoring system.

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