

APPLICATION NOTE

How Fluke Condition Monitoring helps solve these three equipment diagnostic challenges.

Monitoring all plant equipment is often difficult, due to shrinking budgets and limited personnel. Many critical pieces of equipment may have automated fixed monitoring systems, but many important assets like pumps, heat exchangers, compressors and blowers are not monitored. For this less critical but still essential group of equipment, it isn't always possible to catch events before they result in downtime. Often, they remain unmonitored until something catastrophic happens.

Most managers, if asked, would prefer a less reactive method of maintaining their capital assets, but limited resources sometimes make that difficult.



Here are 3 diagnostic challenges associated with unmonitored equipment:



1 Intermittent faults can be challenging.

For equipment without monitoring, finding intermittent problems can be a matter of intuition. If the technician is there right when something goes down it's possible that the root cause can be identified. But how often is a technician in the right place, at the right time? Just as cars stop making clanking noises in front of mechanics, equipment can stop demonstrating symptoms in front of the technician. Root cause is also difficult to diagnose as faults may occur across different pieces of equipment. With Fluke Condition Monitoring, you can quickly install monitoring and catch the intermittent fault when it happens. You are no longer dependent on having the technician standing in front of the equipment to identify patterns or to be there when faults occur.

2 Long term logging and trending are difficult.

Fluctuations and non-linear patterns in equipment performance are tough to identify without continuous monitoring. It is also challenging to assemble data using only routes or short-term logging data. The versatile wireless monitoring system from Fluke sends data for up to 40 days that you can view on your mobile device or computer.

3 Constant alarms from fixed monitoring systems become background noise

Fixed monitoring alarms don't always accurately capture events as they occur and can prevent you from automatically flagging out-of-tolerance faults prior to production shut down. Real-time threshold alarming is possible with the Fluke wireless monitoring system. Fluke Condition Monitoring can help catch intermittent faults before a production shut down. Real-time alarming can bring attention to problems as they develop.

The diagnostic challenges of unmonitored equipment can be met head-on with the Fluke Condition Monitoring system. Predictive maintenance with condition monitoring minimizes unplanned downtime and extends asset life, by providing you and your team with real-time measurements and alarms to indicate how your assets are running. These easy-to-install and move sensors can be placed on equipment and left for more than four weeks.

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