

Field Feedback: Large NW University Cites Marked Difference Between a Building Outfitted with SGS™ and Buildings Without SGS™

As part of our regular customer service, DP&A Sales followed-up with a large Pacific Northwest university to see how the maintenance went for several SGS™ CR Series shaft grounding systems. They ordered several replacement brushes for systems that had been in operation for well over a decade. DP&A Sales has learned over the years that customer follow-up for prior orders is imperative as SGS™ grounding systems can last for so long and without issue that local knowledge about them can be over time. This is a result of SGS™ shaft grounding systems performing uninterrupted for greater than 10 years at 1800rpm prior to needing an inexpensive brush change.

Jerrett R., Metal Trades Lead at this Pacific Northwest university provided feedback that does an excellent job describing field performance of SGS™ shaft grounding systems and relative to other shaft grounding they have tried. The following is directly quoted from Jerrett:

***“We have 1000s of motors and VFDs on [our] campus and are constantly fighting the effects of motor bearing fluting and subsequent failures from stray shaft voltages. One of our buildings that was commissioned in 2005 contains approximately 20 pieces of original VFD driven motors equipped with the SGS CR series shaft ground[ing]. Since the commissioning in 2005 we have not had one bearing failure due to fluting. I believe this is a testament to the good design of the SGS CR shaft ground.*”**

Comparatively, in many of our newer buildings we have several types of shaft grounding, grounding/bonding straps, and electrical chokes installed on VFDs and motors that are claimed to inhibit bearing fluting. The reliability has been sporadic and in many instances poor with these compared to the SGS CR shaft ground[ing] in our 2005 building. This is a great example of a comparative long-term test of what works and what doesn't.”

Jarrett's feedback makes clear that not all shaft grounding systems are created equal. Our lab tests coincide with Jarrett's field feedback in that SGS™ shaft grounding systems continue to be the only long-term fix for electrically induced bearing damage. Our patented designs ensure the highest degree of **R**eliability, **P**erformance and **M**aintainability (our **RPM** concept for product development) and was born out of an industry with very high standards.

Shaft-to-frame potentials are a very local event within the motor. We know the key to shaft grounding is path of least resistance away from the bearing and simply put, there is not another carbon-based shaft grounding system that can achieve this pathway for the long haul. Induction absorber products try to skirt around the path of least resistance concept, however, those products only provide an ineffective reduction of shaft-to-frame potential and not enough of a reduction to eliminate electrical bearing damage.

We want to thank Jarrett for his feedback. Thank you.

Please contact DP&A Sales at 541-997-4068 or sales@dpa-sales.com to learn more about our products and services.

--DP&A Sales Team