



METRIX ANNOUNCES INDUSTRY FIRST: OPEN PROTOCOL FOR ACCESSING DYNAMIC VIBRATION DATA

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HOUSTON, TX – Metrix Instrument Company today announced that its new SETPOINT™ machinery protection system will feature an industry first: an open digital protocol for accessing dynamic waveform data.

Randall Chitwood, Metrix Vice-President, explains the significance of this development. “Vibration monitoring systems have historically been open only with respect to so-called ‘static’ data that is commonly available from a 4-20ma output or a Modbus® interface as defined in American Petroleum Institute Standard 670. When users needed access to actual waveform data – so-called ‘dynamic’ data – their only option was to purchase the vendor’s proprietary software because the protocol containing this data was proprietary as well. Customers have been very clear that they want a more open and inexpensive approach to accessing this data – one that does not necessarily require proprietary software. We are the first company to open our protocol directly at the hardware level, allowing anyone’s software to access the dynamic data collected by our system. Users will benefit tremendously from this truly open system.”

Chitwood continues, “Our machinery OEM customers and large multi-national energy company customers have been very receptive to this approach. Many develop their own in-house software to provide remote machinery diagnostic and condition monitoring capabilities, and require access to not just static data, but dynamic data as well. Asking them to purchase a proprietary software system simply to act as ‘middleware’ in these instances has not been a satisfactory approach. We believe our open data approach addresses a very important customer need and allows them to exercise greater freedom of choice.”

Ben Berwick, Manager of Product Development for Dresser-Rand’s turbomachinery controls concurs: “During development of the SETPOINT monitoring system, Metrix has been very proactive in not just soliciting customer input, but in actually incorporating that input into the product. This open data connectivity is extremely important in enabling Dresser-Rand to realize integrated control and diagnostics through our Envision™ suite of performance and diagnostic software.”

Jon Peterson, Vice-President of Marketing for OSISOFT, LLC (www.osisoft.com), the leader in real-time data infrastructure solutions and maker of the PI® System process historian, likewise concurs. “We are very pleased to see the step that Metrix has made towards fully opening this data. PI System users

worldwide will benefit from the native connectivity we are planning between our PI System and the Metrix SETPOINT™ machinery protection system to deliver rich static and dynamic data plots and trends. It simply makes sense that users be able to historize and view their entire set of vibration data – including dynamic data – in the same platform as their process data.”

The SETPOINT machinery protection system will become available for first shipments in 2Q2011. Users will be able to activate the dynamic data protocol features in late 2011.

About Metrix...

Metrix Instrument Company (www.metrixvibration.com) is a leading supplier of machinery protection and condition monitoring products and services to industrial customers worldwide in the energy and other industries. Founded in 1965, the company introduced the first commercially available vibration transmitters, allowing vibration to be more easily integrated with existing plant control and monitoring systems accepting process measurement inputs via industry-standard 4-20mA signals. Today, Metrix does business in more than 50 countries worldwide and, in addition to vibration transmitters, offers a comprehensive portfolio of vibration sensors, electronic and mechanical vibration switches, permanent monitoring systems, and associated field services for machinery diagnostics, system installation and maintenance, and training. A Roper business (www.roperind.com NYSE: ROP), Metrix is headquartered in Houston, Texas, with sales and service offices globally.

For More Information...

Steve Sabin - Global Product Marketing Manager

Metrix Instrument Company
2516 Business Parkway, Suite F
Minden, NV 89423 USA
(775) 552-3269
steve.sabin@metrixvibration.com

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