

SOP: Semi Annual Schedule PM for Electric Motor Bearing Lubrication Procedure

The intent of a good maintenance program is to extend the service life of a motor. In most cases, improper electric motor lubrication procedures can have a negative impact on the program. A basic set of procedures should include some variation of the following:

1. Ensure the grease gun contains the appropriate lubricant.
2. Clean the areas around the relief and fill fittings.
3. Remove the grease relief valve or drain plug.
4. Grease the bearing with a calculated amount of grease. Slowly add grease to minimize excessive pressure buildup in the grease cavity.
5. Watch for grease coming out the relief port. If excessive amounts of grease are pumped into the motor and the old, used grease is not being purged, stop and check for hardened grease blocking the relief passage.
6. If regreasing is performed with the motor out of service, run the motor until bearing temperature increases to operating temperature to allow for thermal expansion of the grease. Ensure the relief valve or drain plug is left out during this process.
7. Allow the motor to run at this temperature for a short time to expel any excess grease before installing the bottom grease relief valves.
8. After excessive grease has been purged, reinstall the drain plug and clean excessive grease from the relief port area.
9. Create a new corrective work order to correct any issue during this PM.