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Geothermal Power Generation

SPE 2025 GEOTHERMAL APPLICATIONS_ DONALD R LEGER

We provide a full range of independent and OEM approved solutions for turbine, generator and transformer products and services that are specific to the appropriate industry

Portfolio



🕲 Gas turbines

Full-service provider offering gas turbine solutions across a range of OEMs.

Generators

Services include manufacturing of stators and rotors to generator winding kits.

Transformers

Design and manufacture new grid transformers, autotransformers, and generator step-up (GSU)..

🛗 Operations and maintenance

Comprehensive third-party facility operations and maintenance service for power plants.

Steam turbines

Industry-leading engineered solutions and turnkey support to increase reliability and efficiency.

Compressors

Inspect, repair, reverse-engineer and re-build centrifugal, axial and integrally geared compressors.

Field services

24/7 turbomachinery field services, rapid mobilization and industry leading safety performance

🔁 Supporting services

Steel construction, oilfield services and material handling in select geographical locations.

History of Geothermal Energy



- First Geothermal unit Experimental, 1904 Larderello, Italy
- First Geothermal unit Commercial, 1914 Larderello, Italy (installed by Prince Piero Conti to end his dispute with the local utility)
- First Geothermal unit in the US 1922, Geysers, CA
- Soviet Union, Iceland, Hungary & New Zealand installed units in the 1950s.
- 1951-1960 Geysers (USA) developed to nearly 1 GW capacity
- First water-dominated resource developed at East Mesa, CA, 1979
- First flash plant developed at Brawley, CA in 1980 (10 MW)
- First use of crystallizer/clarifier technology to manage high salinity brines Salton Sea, CA 1982
- First binary plant in 1984 Roosevelt Hot Springs, Utah (1.3 MW)
- First dual-flash plant, Heber, CA 1984 (50 MW)



Geothermal Power To Date





Global Geothermal Power Plant Map (ThinkGeoEnergy)





Geothermal Drilling





Deep Drilling Could Change the Potential



Geothermal Power is Base Load Generation

Geothermal Power Cycles





The Cause and Effect of Wet and Corrosive Geothermal Steam Must be Addressed



Best practice for geothermal turbines



- Material selection MUST be based on steam conditions and chemistry
- Proper shutdown and moisture removal during outage is also critical
- Periodic monitoring of steam path condition and repairs if needed
- Strict control of steam chemistry
- Geothermal resources can consume conventional materials
- Small variation in hardness and chemistry can be important
- Short term spikes in low Ph can be very damaging

Addressing Moisture Problems





Tall blade erosion protection: Stellite shield Solid Stellite coupon

Design solution to tenon erosion is to change to integral covers

Material Options for Tall Blades in Geothermal Flash/Direct Steam Plant Service



Addressing Blade Erosion

Material Options:

- 403 SS (Also called X15)
- M152 (Also called Jet Heat)
- 17-4 PH
- Titanium

Other Treatments:

- Laser Hardening
- Flame Hardening
- Coatings

Erosion Rate Normalized Against Stellite



"T" Root Blade and Rotor Stress





Blades and Rotor subject to high stress concentrations

FEA Modeling – High Stress in fillets on blades and rotor

Wheel Weld Repair and Reblading





1st & 3rd stage wheel weld

1st & 3rd stage reblading completed

Wheel and Shaft Erosion Repairs





Severe wheel erosion



Model to evaluate wheel profile modification



Severe shaft erosion



Analysis to validate wheel profile modification



Finished photo of wheels machined and Inconel inlay in shaft seal area



All seal areas are typically upgraded with Inconel inlay on geothermal repairs

Blade and Wheel Dovetail Inspection

Visual inspection of blading to look for:

- Blade and shroud physical damage
- Visual surface crack indications
- Rubs
- Erosion
- Corrosion



Corrosion

Shroud Rubs

Erosion

- Magnetic particle inspection to look for cracks which can indicate stress corrosion cracking damage or metal fatigue
- For geothermal applications, removal of blades to inspect the dovetails of the rotor and blades is sometimes done depending on operational history and blade visual condition
- Phased array NDT of the dovetails is sometimes an option if surface is not badly corroded

- 12 Cr Inner and outer rings
- 12 Cr Spacer bands
- 12 Cr or Inconel nozzles

Minimum requirements for high moisture:

- Stainless steel inlay at steam face
- Stainless steel inlay at horizontal joint
- Inconel weld repairs

Change Diaphragm to Stainless Steel Inner and Outer Rings



- Appendages on the diaphragms to draw moisture from the steam
- Moisture collected must be removed from the bottom of the casing for each stage

Improved Moisture Separation Feature





EthosEnergy scope

- New diaphragms
- New blades
- New seals
- Weld and re-machine casing on site
- Added inlets on site
- Support controls retrofit
- Disassembly & reassembly

NCPA Ansaldo Unit – Rerate/Life Extension









- Complete replacement steam path
- Advanced Aerobowed blades and nozzles
- 12 Cr steam path for geothermal application
- Integral covered blades

Steam Path Modernization 한 49 MW Dual Flash







Derate Due to Steam Field Depletion

Toshiba

- Single Flash
- 6 Stage Double Flow
- 660 mm Tall LO Blades





14%

Measurement	Units	Original Design	De-rated Conditions
Inlet Pressure	Kg/cm² abs	7.86	6.04
Inlet Temperature	deg C	168.9	165.7
Condenser Vacuum	mmHg	585	678
Turbine Speed	3600	3600	3600
Rated Output	kW	57,000	32,200



Thank you for your time, any questions?

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