

# Insight



JULY 2008

## IRD Mexico provides service support for PEMEX



**Petroleos Mexicanos' (PEMEX) Refineries have been pioneers in the field of predictive maintenance in Mexico since the 1970's.**

Accurate dynamic balancing is used as a tool to avoid high levels of vibration and to increase the reliability and productivity in all their Plants. PEMEX now has 7 refineries operating in the country and all of them have balancing machines on site which are used as part of repair and maintenance programmes to minimise unbalance in rotating equipment.

Each year IRD Balancing Mexico's personnel visit the Refineries to carry out balancing machine system service and calibration as well as providing technical assistance and training courses as required. The needs are different in each Plant; some of them are located in the southeast of Mexico, where the environmental humidity and corrosion levels are high. Other Refineries are located in the arid regions of the north of Mexico, such as Cadereyta's Refinery

where IRD has recently completed an annual service visit, undertaking calibration of the B50/246 Balancing Machine System and providing technical assistance and training.

The first PEMEX plant to acquire an IRD Balancing machine was the Tampico Refinery in the State of Tamaulipas, located at the north part of the Gulf of Mexico. The Refinery of Cadereyta, located 36 kilometres east of the modern City of Monterrey has the most recent system installations.

Cadereyta refinery has 9 new plants besides the 10 already established; it has a production capability of more than 250,000 barrels per day. Its gasoline production covers the demand of the States of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua and part of the States of Durango, San Luis Potosi and Tamaulipas. PEMEX is continuing investment at Cadereyta with further new plants planned for production of ultra-low sulphur fuels.



## IRD Service Conference

Late March saw the IRD international service conference held in Louisville KY. This event brought together our Application Engineers and our Field and Bench Repair Technicians from USA, Canada, Mexico and the UK in order to compare experiences and share best practice. The event was a great success and formed an important step in the ongoing development of our service capability.

Such a gathering of experience in one location also provided a great opportunity for feedback to our design and manufacturing teams.

IRD's commitment to service is one of the fundamental pillars of our business strategy and we remain dedicated to the continuing support of our customers and equipment in the field.

# IRD LLC Appoints International Sales Manager

IRD LLC is pleased to announce the addition of Randy Mosele to the management team in the position of International Sales Manager. Randy has over twenty years of international management experience gained in both the military and private sectors. He brings expertise in sales, marketing, customer service, purchasing, logistics, supply chain management and management consulting. Following a distinguished

military career in the U.S. Army, Randy has gained extensive international experience working with The Lyte Group Inc., Coors Brewing Company, Orica USA Inc., and Triple Crown Logistics Inc. Randy has a BSCE from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and an M.A. from Purdue University. When he is not working, Randy's leisure pursuits include fly-fishing, target shooting and amateur auto racing.



## IRD UK Ltd relocates to International House

Following the acquisition of Aerotechnics, as reported in the last edition of 'Insight', all UK operations have now moved to Aviation Park near Chester. Aviation Park is only some 3 miles from our previous location and is located on the Harwarden Airfield site. The move not only brings all parts of the business under one roof and provides some much needed additional office space, it also affords improved customer training facilities.

The Harwarden site is also home to the Airbus and Raytheon Aerospace factories as well as a growing number of other businesses.



## Investment in CNC Machining Technology

As part of its programme of continuous improvement, IRD recently installed a new CNC mill in its Kentucky manufacturing facility. The CNC mill allows an increase of production throughput whilst realising improved product quality. As a continuation of IRD's LEAN production emphasis, CNC programs are being created to quickly manufacture product on an 'as needed' basis for production requirements. IRD engineers are looking forward to utilising the functionality of new CNC technology in the development of enhanced products.

# Agricultural Equipment Manufacturer benefits from IRD Application Support

When an agricultural equipment manufacturer in the US developed a problem with its auger production, it turned to IRD for help. An IRD Model B50 Balancing Machine with base extension and Model 290 Series III Balancing Computer were selected to provide the required balancing facility. Once the equipment was delivered and installed, IRD Application Engineers were dispatched to undertake system commissioning and to provide the customer with operator and application training.

The Application Engineers also worked with the customer to develop suggestions on modifying their product. The result achieved a reduction of balancing time from over four hours per auger to less than half an hour. The customer can now be assured of accurately balanced augers which will ensure a long and reliable service life. As a COVERPLAN member, the customer will now receive ongoing system and application technical support and annual calibration/training visits. They also have the peace of mind that the balancing machine system is covered by a three year extended warranty.



# WEIR Services Canada joins COVERPLAN



WEIR Services Canada, part of a major international company, was delighted and enthusiastic to join COVERPLAN when this premier service plan was launched in North America. WEIR relies on annually scheduled service and calibration visits and values the reassurance that loan instruments are available under COVERPLAN at no additional charge should they be required because of a system instrument needing repair. The Montreal and Toronto facilities have both signed up to COVERPLAN membership and the Alberta facility is expected to follow suit shortly. This development builds upon the excellent service that WEIR has come to expect from IRD.

**Annual Service and Calibration when due**

- Service and Calibration of IRD Balancing Machine Systems and Laser Core Size System
- Quality service by factory trained technicians with quality service to manufacturer's original spare parts
- Automatic reminder of calibration due date
- Calibration flexibility to manufacturer's standard alternative and approved procedures
- Extended operator training on machine operation and approved procedures
- Assessment of existing capability and condition of balancing equipment with recommendations for ongoing maintenance and development

**Preferential rates for service and calibration. Charges will only be payable after the service is completed**

- The agreed rate will be charged only when service is completed
- Discount on spare parts and consumables items used

**Extended Warranty**

- A system commissioned by IRD and serviced under COVERPLAN qualifies for THREE YEAR WARRANTY as an additional cost

**Priority response to Emergency Callouts**

- Provision of "on-loan" instrument if one are unable to be repaired on instrument repair within 5 working days (Subject to availability)

**COVER DETAILS**

COVERPLAN is designed to provide customers with a comprehensive and cost effective service package to ensure correct operation, and a long reliable service life of all equipment. IRD will schedule and carry out all routine maintenance and calibration visits and will provide prompt response to any emergency repairs. The nature of routine maintenance or emergency repairs may require the plant or user service or provide operator training and repair with application specific support.

Cover will be automatically renewed on each anniversary of the start date in order to ensure continuity of service. IRD will advise any changes in charge rates before entering service visit. The customer retains the right to decline renewal or to request any review.

All service visits in collaboration related to IRD standard terms and conditions of service. Any spare parts or products provided are subject to IRD standard terms and conditions.

# UPGRADE of Propshaft Balancing Machine

**IRD UK is currently working with one of its customers, Voith Turbo Ltd., to upgrade an existing propshaft balancing machine facility.**

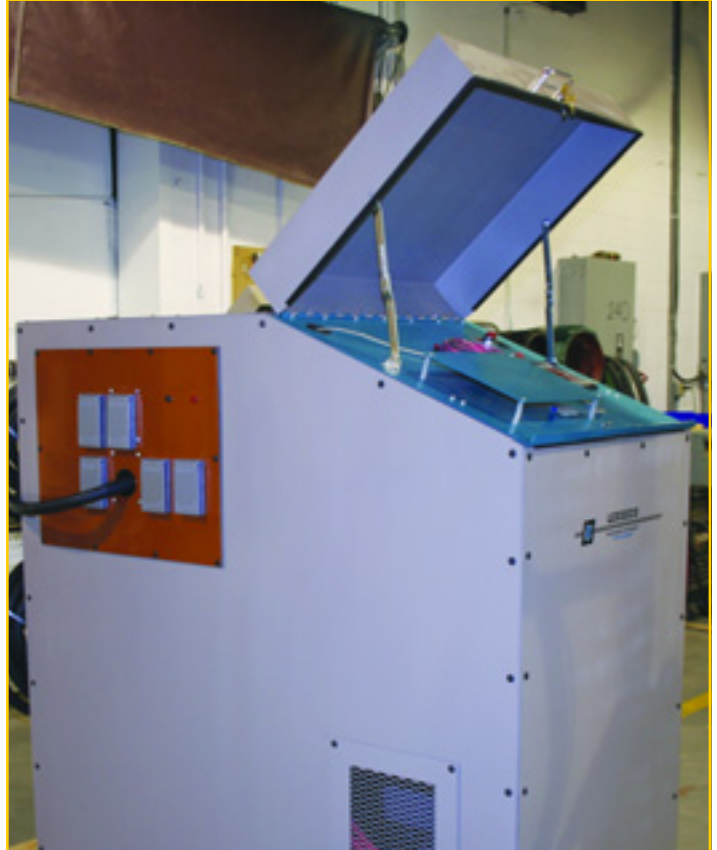


Voith Turbo manufactures drive systems to efficiently drive and move machinery, on land and at sea. As a leading specialist for power transmissions, Voith Turbo also develops state-of-the-art drive and braking systems for industry, rail, road and marine sectors. Systems include mechanical, hydrodynamic, electrical and electronic solutions.

The first phase of the balancing machine upgrade has already been completed and includes the installation of an IRD Model 290 Balancing Computer with accessories. This has significantly improved the overall system performance and balancing accuracy to ensure the smooth and reliable running performance of these critical components.

The next phase will be to install updated suspension modules that will not only increase the overall propshaft weight handling capacity of the machine system, but will also improve system linearity and sensitivity throughout the operating speed range. This will provide the means to accurately balance a wide range of shaft sizes, including even the most complex and flexible propshaft assemblies.

# Delivery of 300KVA LEXSECO Core Loss Tester



IRD recently shipped a new 300 KVA Lexseco Core Loss Tester to a nuclear construction and design customer in Virginia. Depending on circuit impedance, the Core Loss Tester is capable of testing motors rated at up to 10,000 HP. Standard equipment supplied with the unit includes the AC Rotor and DC Armature package, consisting of 20' extension cable and shaft clamps. Utilising production process improvements, due to LEAN initiatives, made it possible to complete and ship the core loss tester two weeks ahead of schedule.



**INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

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