

The Role of Benchmarking in Reliability-Centered Maintenance

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Wind Energy Technologies
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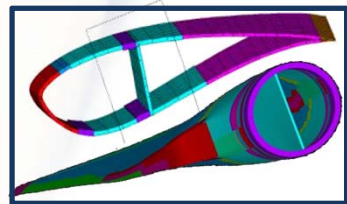
Sandia National Laboratories

Exceptional Service in the National Interest



The graphic features a globe with the word "Sandia" in red script and "VISION" in blue block letters. A banner across the globe reads "helping our nation secure a peaceful and free world through technology". On the left, five stars are arranged vertically, each with a label: Integrity, Excellence, Service to the Nation, Each Other, and Teamwork. The Sandia National Laboratories logo is in the top left corner.

Our highest goal is to become the laboratory that the U.S. turns to first for technology solutions to the most challenging problems that threaten peace and freedom for our nation and the globe.



Wind Energy Technologies Department

FOCUS

- Industry needs
- Reducing energy cost
- Promoting large-scale deployment of clean, affordable energy

GOALS

- High fidelity modeling
- Blade design to eliminate barriers
- Increased energy capture & improved efficiency
- **Increased system reliability**
- Testing at reduced cost

Reliability-Centered Maintenance

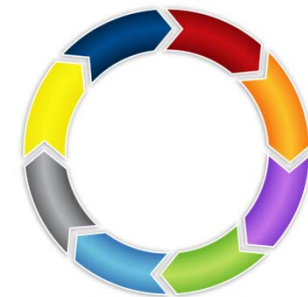
What is Reliability-Centered Maintenance (RCM)?

- Process to define maintenance program to maintain necessary operations and operating conditions (safety, environment)
- **Goal:** Achieve inherent equipment reliability at a minimal cost
 - “Inherent” from design and manufacturing – maintenance can’t change this level
- Groundwork was developed at United Airlines in the 1970s
 - Quickly adopted by military & nuclear power industry
- Defined by the standard “Evaluation Criteria for RCM Processes” (SAE JA1011)
 - 7 key questions about functions, failures, and failure prevention



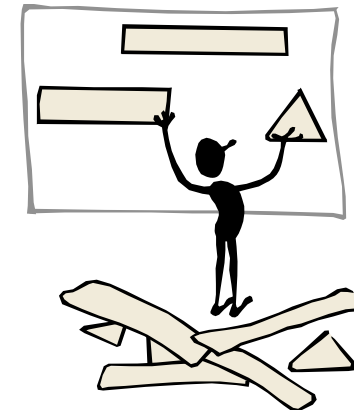
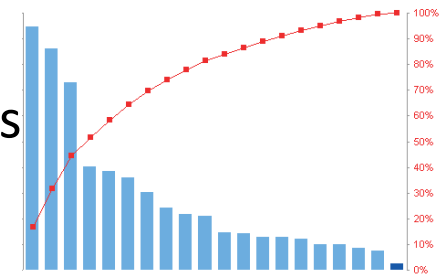
RCM Process

- Identify operating context for the equipment
 - Create a FMECA (Failure Modes, Effects, and Criticality Analysis)
- Determine maintenance activities that address items in FMECA & appropriate frequencies (bundling work)
 - One-time System Changes
 - Predictive Maintenance
 - Preventive Maintenance
 - Inspections
 - Run-to-Failure
- Re-evaluate maintenance effectiveness
 - Make adjustments as needed



Assessing & Sustaining an RCM Program

- Determine and evaluate Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) with and without the RCM program
 - Examples: Cost, Availability, Maintenance Hours
- Identify top contributors to KPIs
 - Worst Performers & Emerging Negative Trends
 - Best Performers & Most Improved
- Adjust maintenance program
 - Add or remove tasks
 - Update maintenance intervals
 - Change criteria/parameters for prediction
 - Implement one-time changes
 - Etc.



RCM Requires Benchmarking

- Identify top contributors to KPIs
 - Requires internal benchmarking
 - Is the data available to perform an analysis of top contributors?
- Determine if maintenance is “too good” or too much is being spent
 - Requires external benchmarking
 - Could those resources have more impact elsewhere?

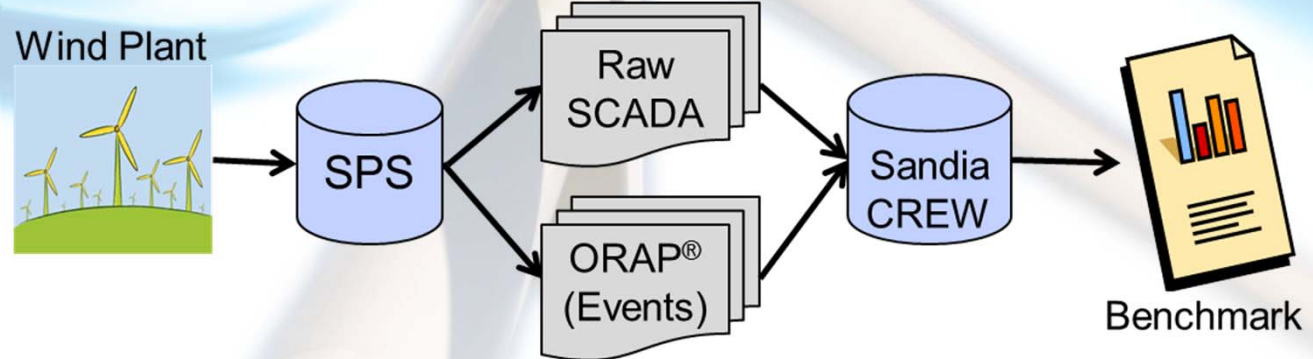
Benchmarking

CREW: Continuous Reliability Enhancement for Wind

Goal: Create a national reliability database of wind plant operating data to enable reliability analysis

Method:

Sandia partners with Strategic Power Systems (SPS), whose ORAPWind® software collects real-time data from wind plant partners



Key Objectives:

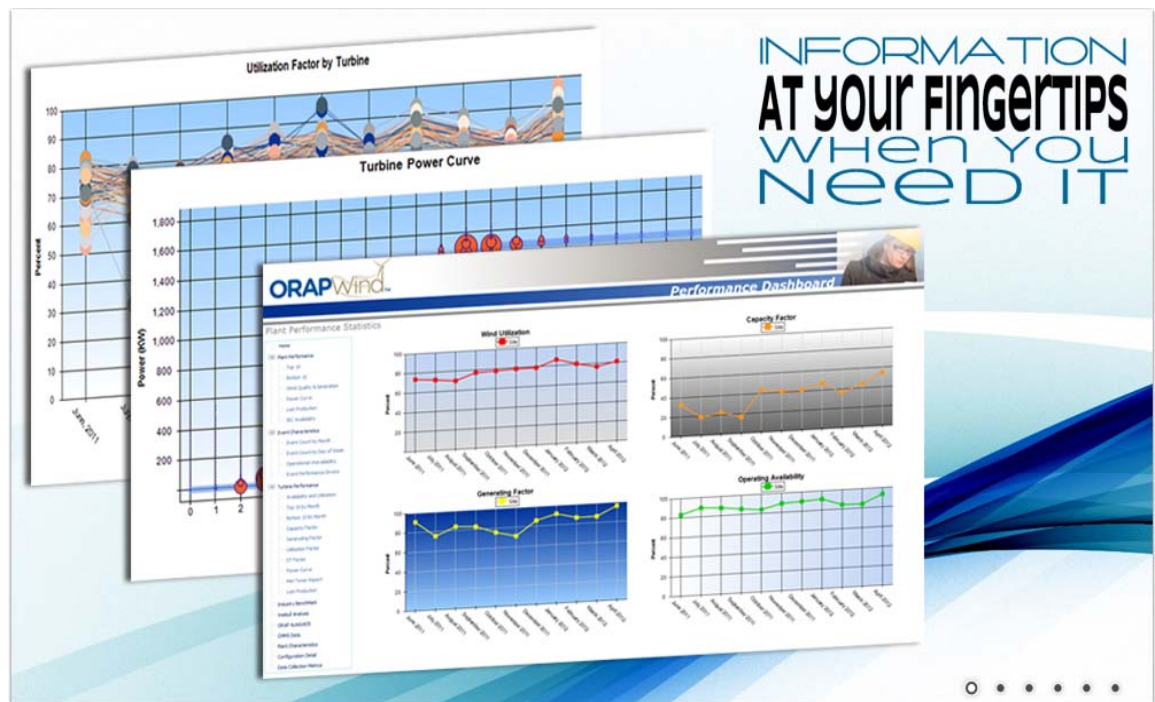
- **Benchmark reliability performance**
- Track operating performance at a system-to-component level
- Characterize issues and identify technology improvement opportunities
- Protect proprietary information
- Enable operations and maintenance cost reduction
- Increase confidence from financial sector and policy makers



Performance Dashboard

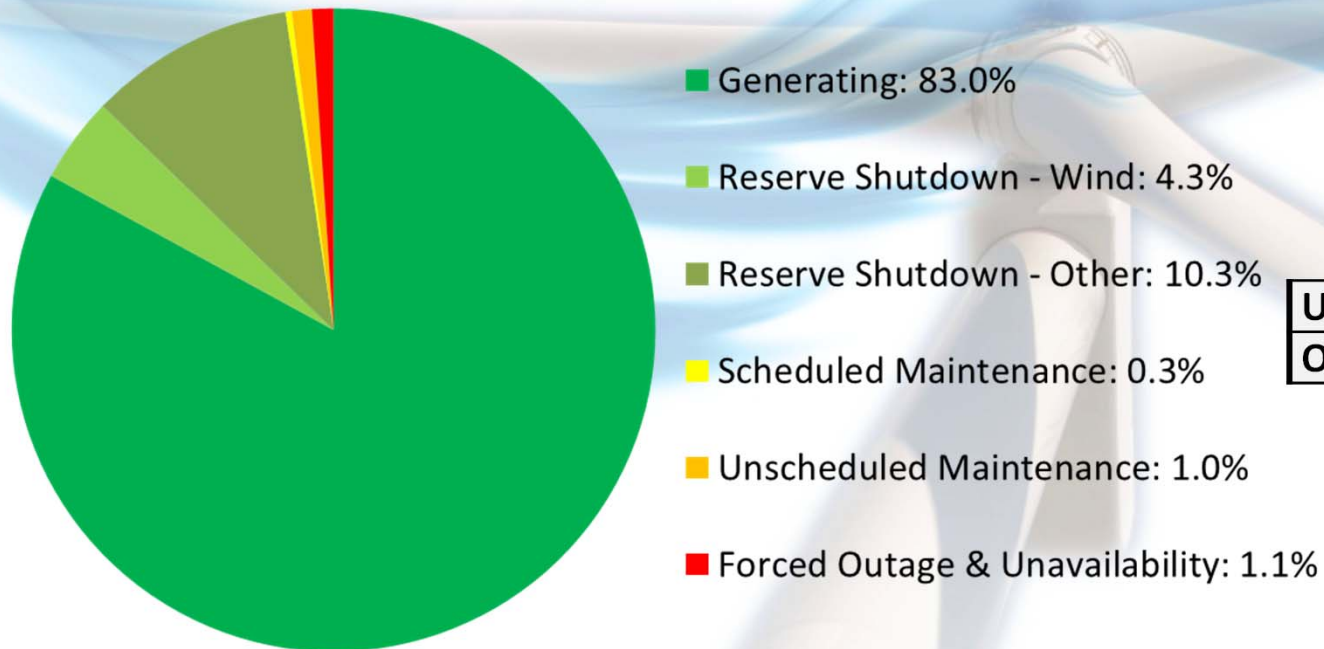
- Cloud based online analysis – 24x7
- RAM and Performance data analysis
- **One minute statistical data** – everyone else uses 10 minute data
- ORAP® Transformed data
- Fault / Event analysis
- Industry benchmarks
- IEC / IEEE Availability reporting
- NERC GADS reporting
- Data Completeness and Quality monitoring metrics

ORAPWind.spsinc.com



Availability Time Accounting

Information Available

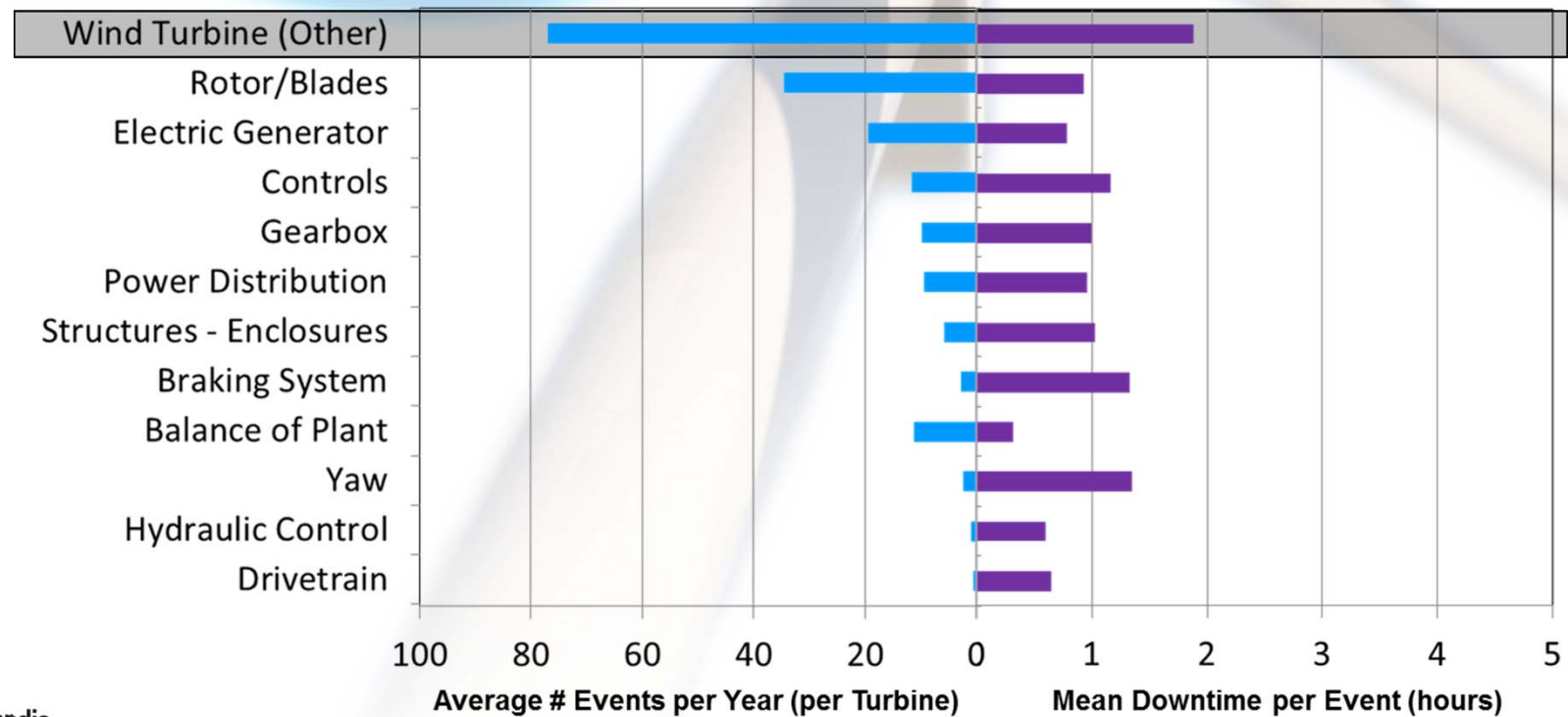


Utilization	83.0%
Operational Availability	97.6%

- Utilization = Generating
- Operational Availability
= Generating + Reserve Shutdown Wind + Reserve Shutdown Other
- Can calculate other metrics of interest from these categories
 - Example: Technical Availability
= (Generating + Reserve Shutdown Wind + Reserve Shutdown Other)
/(100%-Scheduled Maintenance)

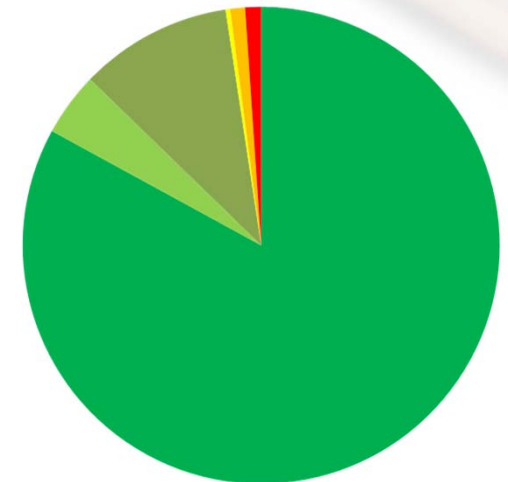
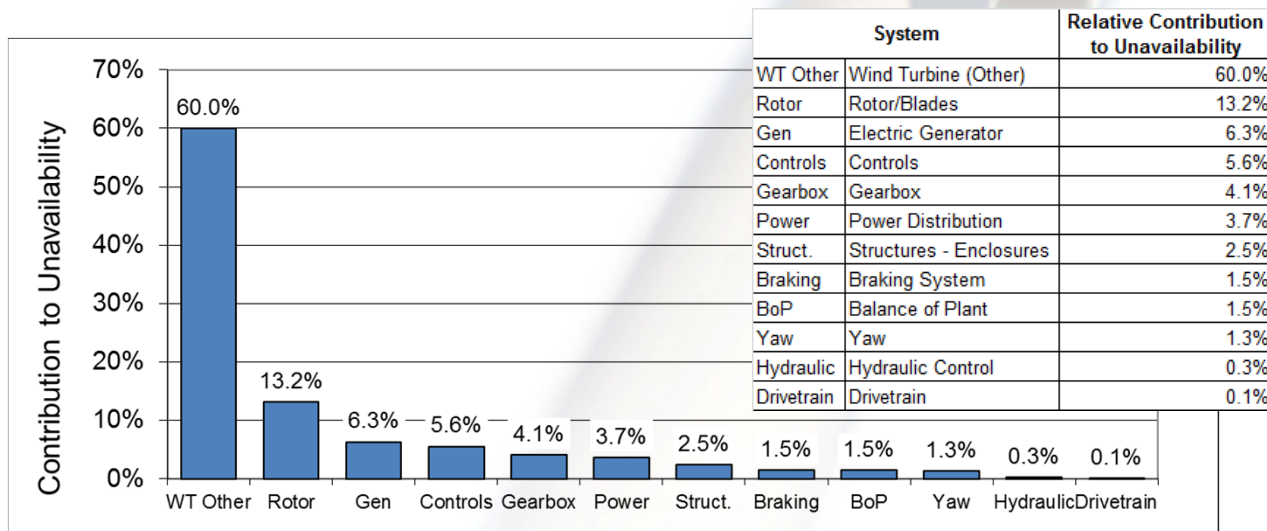
Event Frequency vs. Downtime

- Dominated by “Wind Turbine (Other)” events
 - Mainly when technician has turbine in maintenance/repair mode
- Work Orders or Technician Logs are critical for differentiating within this category



Conclusions

- RCM requires internal Benchmarking
 - Determine the best and worst contributors to KPIs
 - These are the components/activities that warrant changes
 - The right data is critical to performing this assessment
- RCM requires external Benchmarking
 - Is performance poor, better-than-necessary, or just right
 - Are too much resources being spent? Are they better utilized elsewhere?



Backup

CREW - Accessing More Information

- The benchmarks and companion technical reports for 2011-2013 can be found at <http://energy.sandia.gov/crewbenchmark>
- Sandia keeps an archive of our past wind plant reliability publications at http://energy.sandia.gov/?page_id=3057#WPR
- All U.S. wind plant owners, operators and OEM's are invited to participate. Please contact:

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