

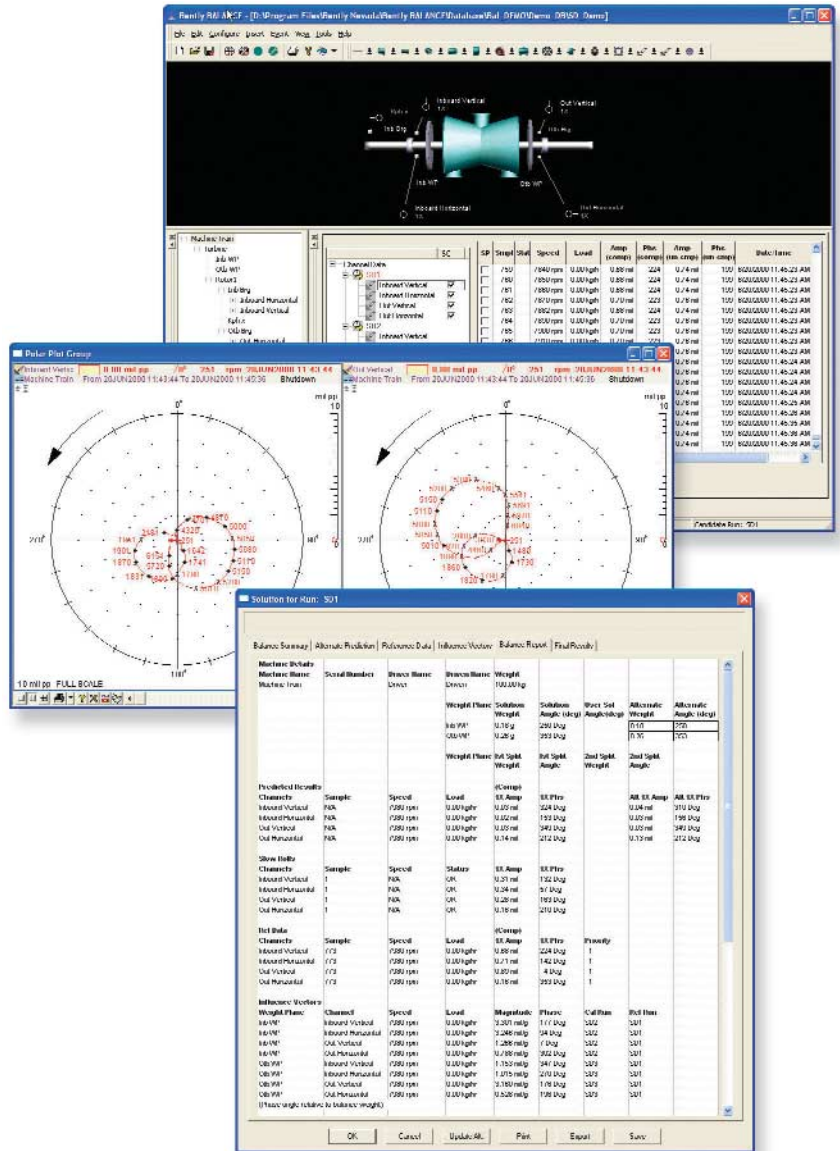
Bently BALANCE® Software

Jean Van Den Berg

Commercialization Manager, Optimization and Diagnostic Software
 GE Energy
 jean.vandenberg@ge.com

When Bently BALANCE software was released in 1999, we incorporated the feedback we had received over the previous two decades with our first two generations of multi-plane balancing software. That feedback came from two sources: our customers and our own machinery diagnostics engineers who have performed thousands of field balancing jobs over the years. These users told us they needed an application that could handle even the most complex multi-plane problems, particularly those – such as when the number of correction planes do not equal the number of measurement planes. They also told us they needed balancing algorithms that were well-suited for optimizing a solution over a range of speeds and loads, rather than balancing for one operating point only. And, they told us that the software needed to be highly graphical – allowing easy “what if” analysis by simply dragging and dropping weights on the “virtual” rotor and instantly viewing changes in the response.

The software, primarily intended for large turbomachinery with complex balancing needs, was very well received. In fact, it spawned the release of a similar “lite” version of the product that runs on our Snapshot™ for Windows® CE portable data collector, allowing convenient field balancing capabilities when only one- or two-plane solutions are needed, such as on general-purpose machines.



Bently BALANCE software is one of the world’s most powerful and intuitive machinery balancing applications. Numerous recent enhancements have made it even better.

Today, we're pleased to announce Bently BALANCE version 3.00, incorporating numerous improvements since version 1.00 was released, all intended to make field and shop balancing even easier.

◀ **System 1® software connectivity**

Now, you can directly import data from an online System 1 enterprise or an archived database, eliminating the need to manually enter vibration vectors and other data necessary for balancing.

◀ **Configuration wizards**

This utility allows users to more rapidly configure the software (reduces the number of steps required by about half!) when the source of data (System 1, manually entered, ADRE® database, spreadsheet, etc.) differs from one machine or one run to the next.

◀ **Ability to store both predicted and actual results**

While Bently BALANCE software provides predicted results that can be stored, a comprehensive maintenance history for a machine should also include actual "as found" and "as left" balance conditions whenever balancing is performed, showing where weight was added (and how much) and the before/after vibration response. Now, this data can be easily captured and stored in the Bently BALANCE database. You can also store the serial number or other unique identifier for the rotor, particularly useful for machines that may have more than one rotor during their lifespan.

◀ **Enhanced data manipulation**

Users will find considerably more flexibility in defining, using, and reporting data. Manually entering 1X data directly into the software is now easier, faster, and more intuitive thanks to a new spreadsheet-like user interface. Suppressing unwanted data samples so they are not used in calculations has been enabled, allowing you to import your database before you "scrub" it. Influence vectors can now be grouped into named sets, making them easier to manage and easier to recall. 0° reference locations can now be any-

where you desire (not just the measurement probe), allowing you to use your own conventions – not just ours. And, there are many other enhancements that "power users" will find especially helpful.

◀ **Microsoft® Excel interface**

While interfaces to the most common data sources are directly supported (ADRE and System 1 databases, and manual input), Microsoft Excel can be used to bridge the gap between other data sources you may be using. Simply export the data from your source application to Excel, and then export from Excel to Bently BALANCE software. This facility is also useful for customers that store manually collected data in Excel. In addition to importing vibration vector data and channel configurations (probe locations, measurement units, etc.), you can also import and export influence vector data. The software even generates a special log file to help you troubleshoot any problems encountered when importing data.

◀ **Simultaneous display of multiple weight planes**

Now, you can see the response from all weight planes on a single screen, allowing easier visualization of the effects of a proposed balancing solution across the entire machine.

◀ **Vector calculator tools, including auto weight-split determination**

An on-board vector calculator makes adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing vectors easy. And, we've made it easier than ever to calculate weight splits – the software does it *automatically* when your initial configuration includes the location of existing holes.

Whether your balancing needs are in the shop, in the test stand, or in the field, Bently BALANCE software is the application of choice for machinery professionals and OEMs around the world. With up to 16 measurement and 16 correction planes, it provides a convenient and powerful environment for even the most complex balancing applications. 📄

learn more online at

<http://www.bently.com/prod/products/balancingalignment.htm>