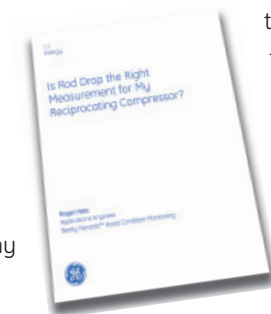


When is Rod Drop the Right Measurement for Reciprocating Compressors?



Over 30 years, GE Energy has developed an extensive offering of proven hardware, software, and services specifically designed to address the monitoring requirements of reciprocating compressors. These include the state-of-the-art Bently Nevada™ 3500 Series machinery protection system and System 1® optimization and diagnostics software. As part of a comprehensive reciprocating compressor condition monitoring solution that includes cylinder pressure, crosshead acceleration, frame vibration, discharge temperature, and other measurements, many users have elected to include the rod drop measurement.



Rod drop can indicate vertical piston movement inside the cylinder, calculated from the measurement of piston rod movement at the pressure packing case. However, inferring piston movement from the measurement of rod movement is based on a number of assumptions, and in some compressor configurations these assumptions are not valid. Their applicability must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

To help you determine whether the rod drop measurement will provide value in your specific application, we have prepared a new application note. For a copy, visit www.ge-energy.com/roddrop or contact your nearest sales professional.