Operational Assessment and Condition Monitoring System





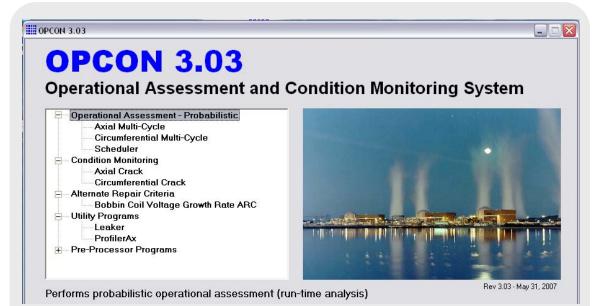












Background

Steam generator degradation has been a wide spread concern for pressurized water reactor owners for several decades. The nuclear industry committed to meeting the requirements contained in the nuclear energy institute's nei97-06 "Steam Generator Program Guidelines" to improve the uniformity of steam generator management Nei 97-06 requires that the steam generator's structural integrity be demonstrated at the end of an operational cycle using a process called condition monitoring. This process uses the results from the end-of-cycle inspection program to demonstrate compliance with design requirements. A second requirement is to assure that appropriate repairs are made to ensure that the steam generator's structural integrity is maintained throughout the duration of the next planned operational cycle. This forward-looking process is called Operational Assessment. Condition Monitoring must be completed in order to support outage repair actions while an Operational Assessment must be completed within 90 days upon conclusion of the outage.

OPCON 3.03

Intertek AIM has developed the OPCON 3.03 – Operational Assessment and Condition Monitoring System to provide Utility engineers with the tools required to meet the demanding requirements of NEI 97-06. OPCON Version 3.03 represents a substantial update over the last version of OPCON.

The bases for OPCON 3.03 are well-defined industry databases and Intertek AIMdeveloped computer models. These have been used by Intertek AIM in support of numerous reports submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to support both

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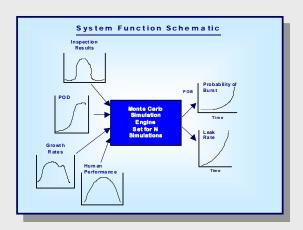
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Condition Monitoring and Operational Assessments. The range of assessments spans from relatively straightforward deterministic evaluations to full probabilistic Monte Carlo simulations.

OPCON 3.03 has the unique modeling feature of providing multi-cycle models based on site-specific inspection data. Site-specific modeling is possible using the unique feature of multi-cycle modeling. This technique uses prior cycle data to baseline model projections for future cycle degradation.

System

OPCON 3.03 is delivered as a state-of-the-art IBM compatible PC with all of the support programs required to produce Condition Monitoring and Operational Assessment calculations. Intertek AIM provides a two-day training program on the use of OPCON 3.03 and has a hotline available to help resolve any issues that may arise.



Availability/Services

OPCON 3.03 is available to Utilities on a purchase or outage-specific rental basis. It has been developed on a modularized basis. Individual degradation-specific modules may also be procured in the event that full system capability is not required.

Intertek AIM also provides, at an additional cost, engineering support for the operation of OPCON 3.03 or for the development of additional models for Utilities that have advanced steam generator degradation. Our staff of steam generator engineers is ready to support your needs.

