

Spring 2014

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-Report from the
Users Group

**“This is exactly the type
of conference we need-
ed”.**

Curtis Ereth, PE
Senior Production Engineer,
Electrical
Minnkota Power Coopera-
tive, Inc.

Next Years Event:

Mid-July 2015
See you in Bismarck

Turbine Tidbit:

The modern steam turbine was invented in 1884 by Sir Charles Parsons, whose first model was connected to a dynamo that generated 7.5 KW (10 HP) of electricity. The invention of Parsons' steam turbine made cheap and plentiful electricity possible and revolutionized marine transport and naval warfare.



Turbine Tribune - Special Edition **Steam Turbine and Generator Users Group Success!**

This was the inaugural year of this group, which started like many great ideas - with industry people getting together and figuring out how to communicate better about solving common problems. In my opinion (*and I may be bias*) we are off to a great thing here. The underlining theme from everyone that I spoke to was that this is something that has been needed in the Dakotas for some time. A platform for the “seasoned” to train the “less seasoned”, talk about the worries of the future and express their concerns about training the younger generation as well as new techniques for maintenance on their turbine generator sets. It was obvious to Don Hurst and I agree, that the attendees of the group really care and are trying to solve issues that are not necessarily theirs to solve; which tells us, we have a great thing going here. Does this sound like something you should be a part of?

Written by Shawn Cotter; VP Operations

We learned a little bit about NASA and oil rig failures from Sonomatic & ATS (<http://www.vsonomatic.com/> & <http://www.atslab.com/>) and also what interesting things happen when you overheat a stator from AGT (<http://agt-services.com/>) as well as new technology for steam path alignments from Ludeca (<http://www.ludeca.com/>). Turbine Generator Technical Services, LLC (<http://www.tgtsllc.com/>) gave all of us some valuable insight into the planning and execution that others around the country are doing and how far ahead of the curve our ND users really are. Progress Pump and Turbine Services (<http://www.progresspump.com/index.html>) introduced themselves to the national market. With their new facility being built they are the oldest, largest and most capable service facility in the Midwest and can easily service the North Dakota Fleets.

This was the maiden voyage of what we believe is going to be a great thing for all the users and service providers that choose to be part of the changing future and not let change pass them by. Whether it is turbine upgrades or generator rewinds, technology is always changing just like people. This will be a great venue to exchange best practices, new techniques and help each other grow and learn how to do their job better and safer...there is always room for a couple more to get on board.

Testimonials:

Sitting in on the Steam Turbine and Generator Users Group Conference sessions I learned a great deal listening to the presenters and during the discussion segments. The presentations were informative and there was a lot of discussion throughout each session and during the question and answer segments. With many of the North Dakota Users attending, I found the conference to be an informative and beneficial interchange of ideas, solutions and networking for all in attendance.