



RECIPROCATING COMPRESSOR MONITORING

Why choose Metrix for monitoring your reciprocating compressors? The answer is simple: better value.

1. Scalability

Metrix is the only provider to offer monitoring solutions easily scalable to the various sizes of reciprocating compressors (recips), namely packaged/skid-mounted up to API 618 machines. In contrast to their much larger API 618 counterparts, packaged recips are typically smaller in size, but can still occupy a prominent role in the plant. While a complex measurement suite and accompanying diagnostic software may not be appropriate, Metrix provides affordable and comprehensive solutions for this smaller – but no less important – class of machines.

Metrix is now able to offer a focused solution for recips including shutdown and alarm for frame vibration, impact severity, rod drop, and crosshead acceleration. Large or small, Metrix truly delivers a scalable solution.

2. Simplicity

Our approach to reciprocating compressor monitoring is to simplify it without sacrificing effectiveness. Accordingly, we have designed our offerings to use simple measurement concepts focused on key areas in which reciprocating compressors are most prone to mechanical problems. Metrix is the only company offering 4-20mA transmitter-based solutions as well as transducer-based solutions leveraging our 5580 Smart Signal Conditioner and SW5580 Switch. Our solutions focus on simplifying the user experience for installing, maintaining, and using the instrumentation, while delivering outstanding results and excellent value for your money.



3. Experience

Metrix monitors over 3,000 reciprocating compressors around the world – more than any other provider. Our solutions have been proven in-use for decades and are purchased by OEMs and end-users alike.

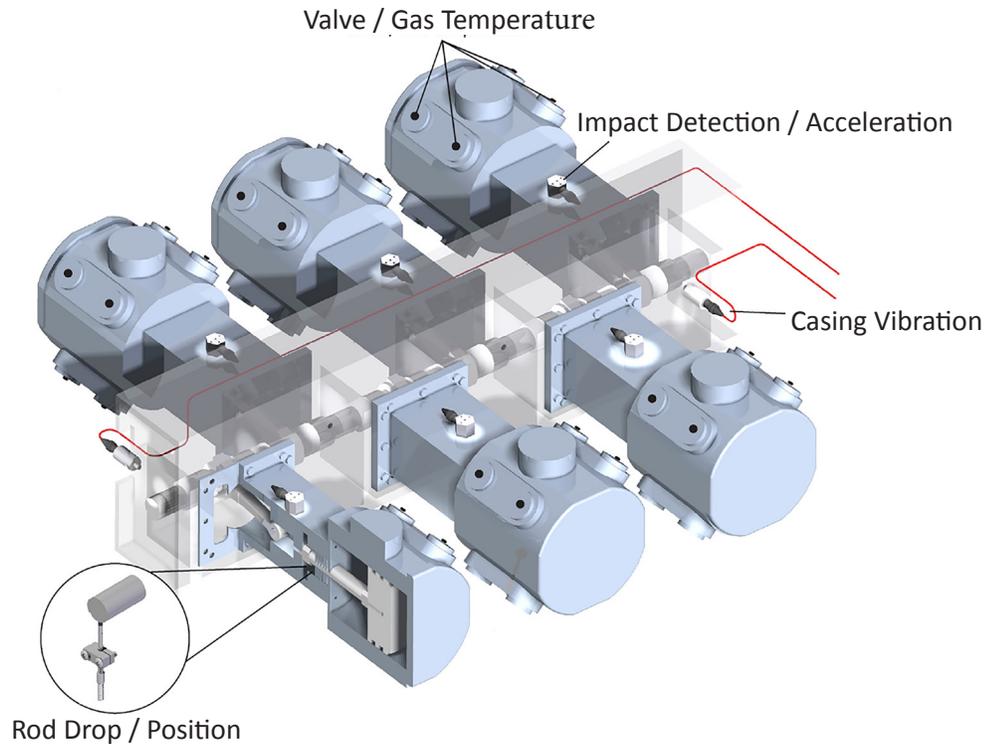
4. Innovation

Metrix pioneered our patented impact measurement technology more than 20 years ago as a way for customers to reliably – yet simply – detect problems in running gear such as looseness in crosshead shoes, wrist pins, connecting rods/nuts, and other components. We also pioneered the first commercially available 4-20 mA seismic vibration transmitter.

Today, we continue to pioneer with the world's first digitally configurable proximity system. Our 5580 Smart Signal Conditioner and SW5580 Switch builds on this field configurable theme by offering flexible monitoring modules, packaged in 2-channel increments, configurable for virtually any vibration or position measurement.



Machine Area	Measurement	Metrix Solution	
		Transmitter-Based	5580-Based
Crank, Frame and Bearings	Seismic Vibration Monitoring	ST5484E into PLC	SV6300 into 5580
Running Gear	Impact Monitoring	IT681X into PLC	SA6200A into 5580
Rider Bands	Rod Drop Monitoring	MX2034 into PLC	MX2033 into 5580
Valves	Temperature Monitoring	RTD or TC into PLC	RTD or TC into PLC



Transmitter Solution

- Simple Architecture and Cost Effective
- Direct Connection to PLC or SCADA
- Local Configuration and Setup
- Remote Indication of Real-Time Values

5580 Smart Signal Conditioner Solution

- Simple Configuration and Cost Effective
- Direct Connection to Local Monitor and PLC or SCADA
- Field configurable full-scale range, input type and bandpass filtering
- Local and Remote Indication of Real-Time Values

Impact Monitoring

The impact measurement was originally developed as a reliable means of protecting reciprocating compressors. Mechanical conditions such as loose rod nuts, loose bolts, excessive slipper clearance, worn pins and liquid in the process are routinely detected on recip using the impact measurement.

The IT681X Impact Transmitter outputs a current level based on the registered number of events above a user- set threshold level that occurred within a configurable time window. Metrix calls this a measurement of “impact severity.” An output of 4mA indicates no events occurred over the threshold level within the time window. An output of 6mA indicates 2 impacts, 8mA indicates 4 impacts, etc., up to 20mA for 16 impacts. If set up correctly, the impacts indicate looseness in the system.

When using the Impact measurement with a 5580 Smart Signal Conditioner or SW5580 Switch, the configuration of the threshold level and time window is easily performed within the 5580 software. Furthermore, the 5580’s impact severity measurement is designed for use with a standard SA6200A (100mV/g) Accelerometer which enables the 5580 to measure impact severity as well as overall acceleration amplitude.

Valve and Gas Temperature

Valve and gas temperatures are a proven method for detecting valve problems. Failed valves are a common cause of inefficiency for reciprocating compressors according to industry studies. Metrix offers the ability to supplement temperature monitoring that may already be in place for the majority of recip and correlate with additional mechanical faults using vibration and position measurements.

Rod Drop

An indicator used to determine rider band wear is rod drop. Using a proximity probe to trend rider band wear helps to avoid piston to cylinder liner contact and associated downtime for unexpected repairs. A rod drop measurement provides the user the average position of the piston. Alert and danger levels can be configured within the SW5580 Switch or your PLC allowing maintenance to be anticipated and scheduled.

“When using the Impact Measurement with a 5580 Smart Signal Conditioner or SW5580 Switch, the configuration of the threshold level and time window are easily performed within the 5580 software and not at the machine.”

Frame Vibration

Frame vibration measurements are useful for monitoring vibration related to running speed and forces acting on the machine. Used in conjunction with an impact transmitter or an accelerometer, malfunctions associated with low frequency and high frequency events can be reliably detected. Metrix recommends the use of the ST5484E Velocity Transmitter or 5580 / SW5580 Smart Signal Conditioner with SV6300 transducer for frame vibration.

Failure Mode	Piston Rider Band Wear	Piston Rod Bow	Crosshead Shoe Vibration	Piston Rod Nut Looseness	Connecting Rod Looseness	Loose Crosshead Guide Shims	Main Bearing Failure	Liquid in Cylinder	Overloading
Rod Drop	X								
XY Rod Drop	X	X		X					
Crosshead Impact / Accel			X	X	X	X		X	X
Crankcase Velocity							X		

HAZARDOUS AREA APPROVALS

Provider Comparison	Metrix Transmitters or 5580	Bently Nevada 3500 / System 1	Prognost SILver / NT
Target Machine Class	Packaged/API 618	API 618	API 618
Cost per throw (USD)1	\$3K - \$10K	\$25K - \$150K	\$25K - \$150K
Frame Vibration	•	•	•
Crosshead/Cylinder Impact	•		
Crosshead/Cylinder Acceleration	•	•	•
Machine Speed / Phase	•	•	•
Bearing Temperature	• ²	•	•
Valve Temperature	• ²	•	•
Rod Drop	•	•	•
Rod Position	•	•	•
Dynamic Cylinder Pressure		•	•
Condition Monitoring	•	•	•
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simple - Cost-effective - Solutions for rotating and recip machines - Impact measurements available - Simplified spares - Comprehensive measurements including raw signal output for diagnostics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehensive measurements - Cylinder performance (PV curves) - Automated diagnostics - Solutions for rotating and recip machines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehensive measurements - Cylinder performance (PV curves) - Automated diagnostics - Excellent data visualization
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No dynamic pressure measurements - Diagnostics performed via third party condition monitoring software 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complex - Expensive - Not cost effective for packaged recips - Numerous installation pitfalls - Impact measurements not available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complex - Expensive - Not cost effective for packaged recips - Numerous installation pitfalls - Solutions only for recip machines - Impact measurements not available

Note 1: Approximate cost to instrument a 4-throw, 8-valve-per-cylinder compressor with all bulleted measurements

Note 2: Temperature (TC or RTD) inputs to PLC directly for correlation with Metrix Transmitter or 5580 data passed to PLC

5580 / SW5580 Features:

- Two channel module, one or two channels enabled
- Provides sensor excitation
- Drives dynamic signals over long distances (300 m or 1000 ft)
- Alpha-numeric LCD display for both dynamic input and 4-20 mA output signals
- LED for OK / Not OK indication and alarm levels
- SW5580 - optional solid state or dry contact relays are available

