

Infrared Thermography



Infrared thermography is a non-contact method of detecting thermal anomalies.

Thermal anomalies, also called “hot spots”, usually ***precede equipment failure***.

Using state of the art infrared systems, Allrisk Engineering can evaluate and analyze these “hot spots”, ***before failure occurs***, preventing costly equipment failures.

Infrared thermography can be used to evaluate any object that generates heat such as electrical equipment, mechanical equipment, buildings, etc.

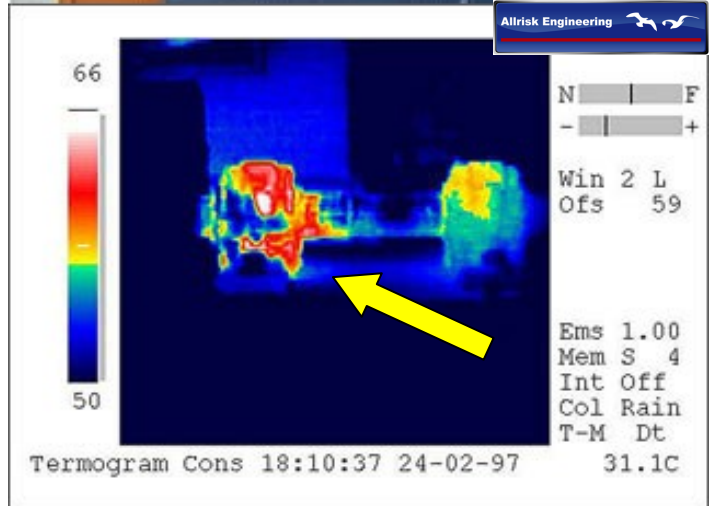
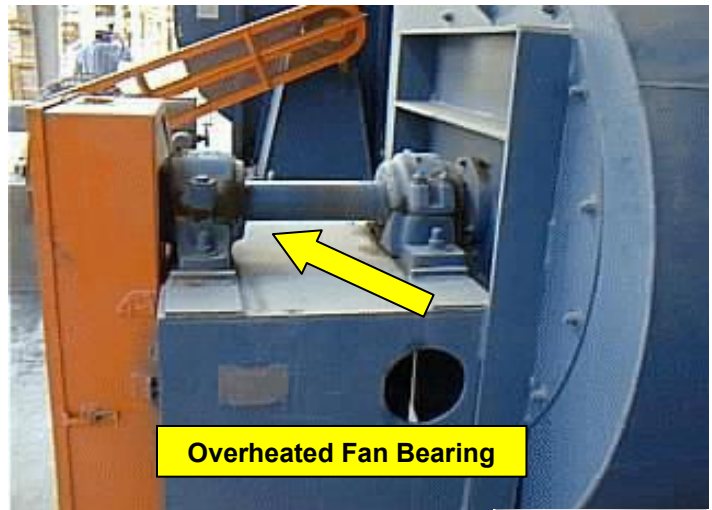
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THE BENEFITS

- A proven nondestructive testing method.
- Provides high resolution non-contact thermal images.
- Can also provide non-contact temperature profile.
- Thermographs are fast and can provide real time imaging.
- Testing is done while equipment is in operation.
- Valuable for many diverse applications.
- Enhances value of other test methods.
- Images can be colorized to provide thermal mapping.
- If properly used, returns on investment, even of the basic applications, are tremendous.



THE LIMITATIONS

- What you see is not necessarily what is “real” , just a thermal image.
- Absolute non-contact temperature measurement, especially on thermally reflective surfaces, require experience to evaluate properly.
- Interpretations of thermal data can be complicated – background temperatures will affect readings.
- IR cameras cannot see through metal or wood or materials such as glass or clear plastic.
- IR cameras are proximity limited.
- Electrical equipment must be opened up prior to the survey.

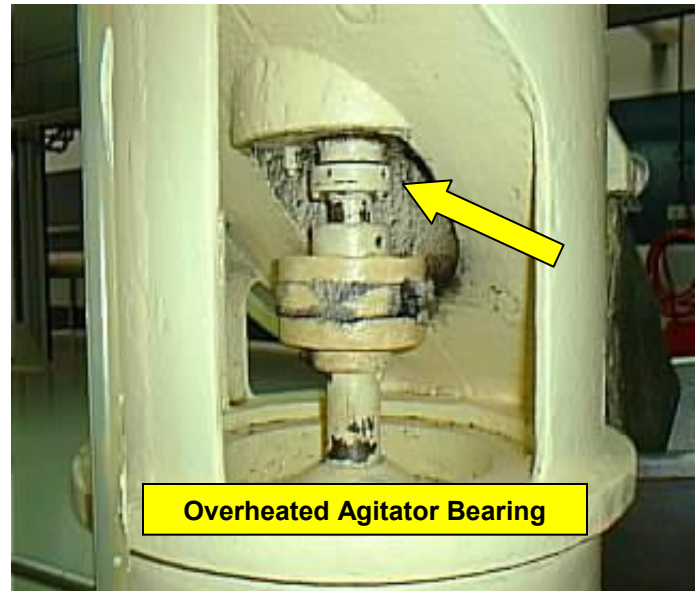
SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS

ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS

- Find “hot spots” related to loose connections.
- Locate imbalances and overloads.
- Check fuses, breakers, switch-gear and bus ducts.
- Inspect substations, transformers and overhead conductors.
- Check repair works after it is completed.
- Inspect new installations prior to acceptance from contractor.

REFRACTORY, STEAM AND FLUID FLOW

- Quickly check steam trap operation, even at a distance.
- Locate underground lines, pipes and leaks in lines.
- Check the integrity of pipe and tank insulation.
- Locate early states of refractory breakdown in furnaces and boilers.
- Check for air leakage and uneven heating in ovens and furnaces.
- Find fluid levels in tanks and blockage in piping.
- Inspect hydraulic systems for leaks, bypasses, plugged filters, etc.

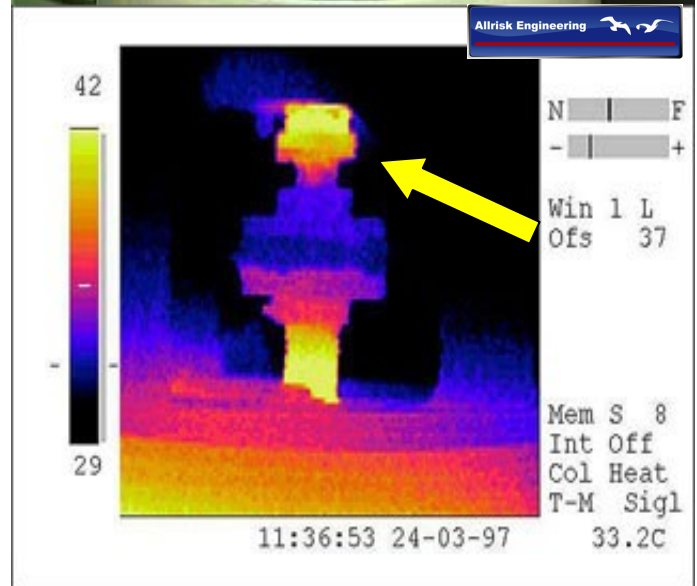


MECHANICAL INSPECTIONS

- Inspect bearings and couplings on rotating equipment.
- Quickly locate blocked cooling ports in motors.
- Help diagnose coupling, belt and gear alignment problems.

ROOF MOISTURE SURVEYS

- Provide key information for a long-term maintenance program.
- Locate wet or damaged insulation.
- Check the integrity of new roof systems prior to acceptance.
- Verify repairs.
- Identify extent of damage caused by storms, contractors or other sources.
- Identify wet insulation for removal prior to installing recovery membrane.
- Inspect the roof before the warranty expires.



BUILDING DIAGNOSTICS

- Diagnose insulation and comfort problems.
- Determine location of existing insulation.
- Provide quality control inspections of new and retrofit insulating work.
- Find air leaks.
- Reduce freezing of water systems caused by air leakage.
- Verify fire sealing.
- Check HVAC systems for air circulation and distribution problems.
- Diagnose condensation problems.

PRODUCTION PROBLEM SOLVING

- Monitor processes with thermal signatures, including moisture and thickness.
- Create continuous temperature maps over large areas of a process.
- Understand the thermal influences of the micro-climate on the process.
- Improve placement of thermocouples and thermal controls.

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO SCHEDULE AN IR SURVEY?

- Prior to a schedule shutdown to determine exact maintenance needs.
- Upon acceptance of a new piece of equipment, machinery or buildings.
- Prior to the expiration of a warranty.
- After a repair or change has been made to a machine or process.
- For real time monitoring to assess the impact of changes.
- To verify data from other test methods.
- Whenever a visual indication of a thermal phenomena is needed.

PREPARING FOR AN IR SURVEY

- Electricians needed to open up cabinets and remove box covers.
- The IR technician must be able to physically see the equipment to survey it.
- Electrical equipment needs to be operating at 40% or more of rated load.
- A one line diagram of the site electrical system to guide the IR technician and electricians.
- Insulating materials on equipment to be evaluated must be removed prior to survey.

