CMMS Integration

How the lubrication program is integrated in the CMMS of your company (SAP, Maximum, JD Edwards, etc)? The professional of the maintenance administration, requires follow up to thousands of lubrication points, so the tasks are carried out at the right time and none is forgotten or made too soon, causing serious injury to the machinery and sometimes, wasting time, labor and lubricant. For this purpose, you have several alternatives to manage the activities of lubrication in the plant:

1. Manual tracking systems, have been used since the birth of the preventive maintenance. And of course, that these manual plans have worked in the past!, but the conditions and requirements of today are much more complex and the levels of duration that is now required from the machinery are higher, your equipments are more advanced and require more sophisticated lubricants with a lubrication schedule more accurate.
2. All plants are required to do more with less. Trying to stay in the effective monitoring of the lubrication of manually, can be a nightmare. When roles accumulate and many of them do not even come to be as many, compared to the large number of activities that the lubrication generates.
3. We have seen also important efforts to bring the control through spreadsheets that include links and update semi-automatically with the inclusion of the hours and generation of triggers of work orders, but in the end, are too complicated and require a great deal of effort to upgrade. These efforts have been made by the maintenance programmers in an attempt to improve the

efficiency of its role, however, these systems consume a lot of time in the entry of the data and in the handling of the worksheets and their links to text processors. Usually are limited to the concepts and ideas of those who generated and require domestic efforts of "re-programming" for the updates, upgrades and repair of errors.

4. Computerized Maintenance Management Systems (CMMS) are a great tool to assist the professional in the management capabilities of maintenance.

   These systems provide tracking from the spare parts up to a full reconstruction project. But they are not very good when it comes to establish routes of lubrication and give a follow up to the type of information that is required when it comes to implementing "best practices" that the lubrication plant requires. Those who have already installed and operated a CMMS, know that is really complex to issue individual work orders for each task of lubrication at the moment that it generates its execution date and time (remember that there is lubricating tasks that must be carried out with frequencies of hours, shifts or days).

   The system would be spitting hundreds or thousands of job sheets for each of the lubrication tasks. Imagine opening, printing and closing each work order that would be generated in the CMMS for each programming period. Really in maintenance, there is a lack of that valuable time for use only in the task of lubrication. Then… Is there an easier way to do this work? Of course, what must be done is to avoid having to issue individual work orders and try to group them by a certain type of classification, as common locations, area or type of lubricant.

This type of routing process does not allow the individual programming of the lubrication points.

What would happen if it were left to schedule a couple of lubrication points for a month? How to separate them from the rest of the points that if they were executed? How they could give follow up for the next period? How can we bring the history of whole tasks for each lubrication point? How can we determine a quick way which equipments are being lubricated in an efficient manner and most importantly, how to determine which have not been lubricated?

5. In our view, the first step is the preparation of a critical path, and the development of a matrix of criticality for the most sensitive equipment within the plant, and on the basis of this holistic planning start expanding in an orderly manner. There are several ideas in Maintenance Departments on how to tackle lubrication tasks, and what we just expose here, are some ideas that at present are running in several industrial plants.

RELIMANS
Reliability & Maintenance Specialists

Our Sponsors:

MacFarlane Energy
OFFICIAL SPONSORS

Our Clients:

Contact us: WWW.RELIMANS.COM