

# Installation of PM Direct Drive Fan Motors

Updated 2019 by Marty Mates for ACCUG Queretaro



Permanent magnet motor ready for installation, fan hub installed on shaft at motor factory







# Typical motor and reducer drive installation







# Direct drive motor technology

- Introduced to the cooling tower market in 2008;
  - 11 years experience
- In excess of 1200 total units installed across all industries
- 140 utility size FL5800 frame Direct Drive cooling tower motors in shaft up configuration are in operation today.
- Introduced ACC design in 2013 Installed in 2015
- 2019 new ACC retrofit installations in Texas and country of Jordan





# ACC design background

- Introduced Direct Drive design concept and solicited feedback at ACC Users Group in Gillette in 2012.
- Site visit to NV Energy and Dave Rettke at Higgins to gather input and suggestions for ACC motor design.
- At the 2014 Users Group meeting, reviewed the Dry Fork prototype installation, identified installation challenges and the motor final design.
- This 2019 meeting we will recap the PM motor design and review installation pictures including Jordan.



# Industry issues

What we hear from users

- Need to improve reliability
  - 10 hrs to 2 3 days to months to change out failed units
- Each ACC installation has a unique design related to Size, (elevation), geographic location (wind, ambient)
- Gearbox issues
  - Leaking gearboxes (seals), shock loading, high ambient conditions, pinion gear failures, windmilling, shaft driven pump, need to operate at required min speeds, backstops
- Maintenance issues
  - Motor lubrication, cleaning of bundles, desiccant change out, oil changes



# Industry issues cont'd....

What we hear from users

- Environmental issues
  - Oil disposal
- Efficiency
  - ACC is highest parasitic load in plant; ability to reduce parasitic load will improve system efficiency and heat rate
- Frequency of inspections based on all of the above
- Noise concerns
- Less people to properly take care of equipment today



### Design considerations for application

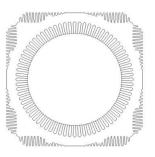
- More horsepower and slower speeds (more torque)
- Operating environment does not require totally enclosed motor
  - Known air flow for cooling
  - No "rain forest" effect
- Long drive shaft; varies by installation
- Ambient in structure is higher than at ground level
- Need to minimize weight; weight creates additional challenges
- Low noise preferred because of elevated structure and proximity to population centers
- Higher system efficiency will help reduce parasitic load and make the ACC a more attractive solution to the power market.
- Robust mechanical design to address wind issues

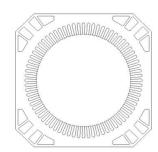


# PM motor technology

Saliency: the ability to control rotor position without a feedback device

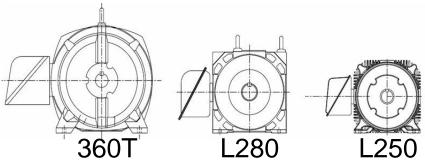






75 HP, 1800 RPM

| 360T | 9.00" |
|------|-------|
| L280 | 7.00" |
| L250 | 6.25" |



Motor power density and increased efficiency



# Class H VPI System







Green paint is epoxy coating for additional protection against moisture





# **Dry Fork Station**

Plant site specifics

- Dry Fork Station is a coal fired plant that came on line in November, 2011.
   45 cell ACC. 422 MW design capacity (385 MW net) coalfired.
- DF identified it's challenges in 2012. These include:
  - Requiring 15-20% more air than can be provided with existing motors during peak season.
     Currently pitched to max amps.
  - On occasion, do see wind gusts to 80 mph.
  - Large percentage of the gearboxes are leaking
- Rating is 250 HP at 104 rpm
  - Wanted a design that utilized a carrier bearing. Wyodak provided input that said they believed it helped. Xcel Comanche 3 provided similar feedback from other ACCUG meetings.



# **Dry Fork Station**

#### Direct drive motor solution

- 12,625 lb-ft of torque (250 HP @ 104 rpm)
- FL5832 frame
- Vertical shaft down
- Large output shaft (6.875" diameter and 42" long)
- Open blower design for cool operation
  - DPG-FV (drip proof guarded force ventilated)
- Low noise (84 dba sound pressure @ 1 meter)

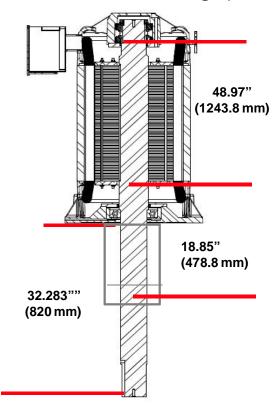
- Carrier bearing for additional protection against side loading
- 40 to 60 degree C ambient options
- Designed for use with the ABB ACS880 Cooling Tower drive
- Insulated bearing
- Class II shaft
- 7800 lbs.

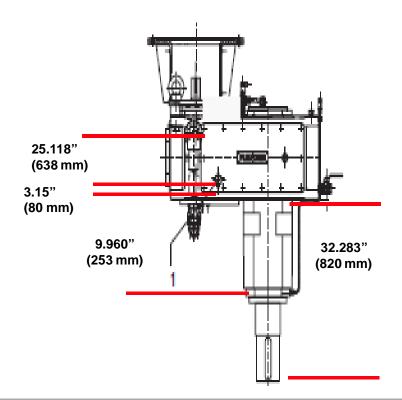


Takes advantage of the environment to provide the most cost effective power dense solution available.

# **Dry Fork Station**

Direct drive motor solution – bearing span







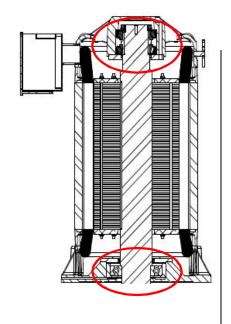


Grease fitting

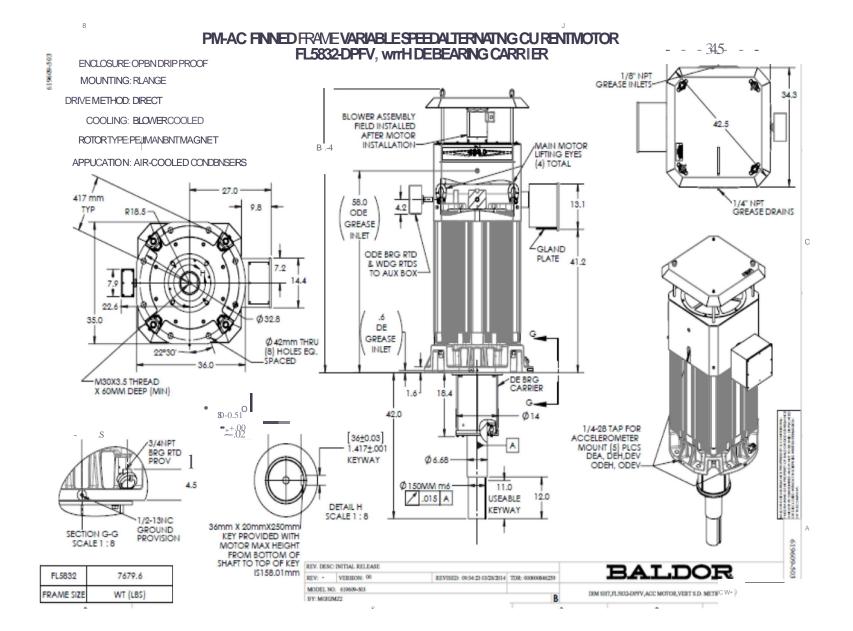
6200 series deep groove ball bearing

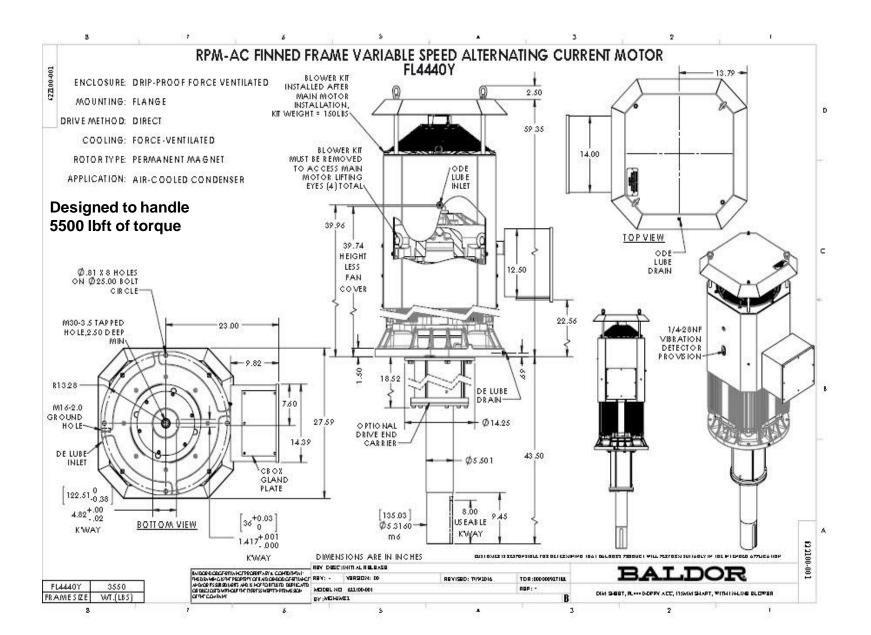
Designed with greater clearance; only functions when motor sees wind gusts > 50 mph

### Motor bearing design & lubrication



- Tapered roller pair on opposite drive end and deep groove ball bearing on drive end.
  - Allows shipping horizontally
- Designed for 100,000 hours L10 on both
  - Drive end and opposite drive end
- Based on air flow, bearings are extremely cool running. Bearing temperature rise will be 80 deg C total temp or less based on 50 deg C ambient.
- Generous bearing cavities
- Use Mobil SHC460 synthetic lubricant. Based on these temps, typically a 12 month relubrication schedule. Will vary by installation.

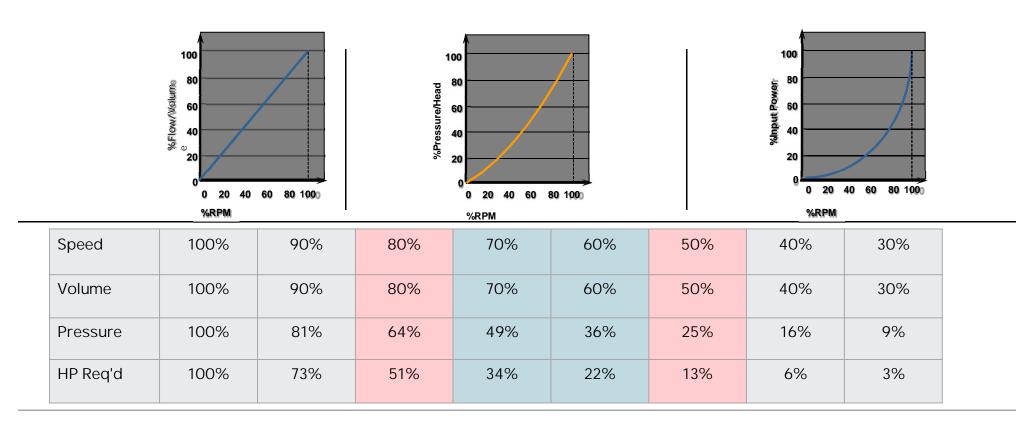




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# **Efficiency Evaluation**

### Affinity laws apply to cooling towers





### ACC Drive motor control

### Matched performance drive & motor





NO SPACE HEATERS REOUIRED

- Proven Technology Design focused on:
  - Ease of startup
  - Minimal maintenance
  - Efficiency of operation
- Utilizes unique control algorithms
  - Interior Permanent Magnet (IPM) Motor Control
  - Sensorless Vector algorithm
  - Smooth, low speed operation
- Provides small amount current to motor when not in use
  - Eliminates condensation in the motor no space heaters required
  - Additional benefit of providing anti-wind milling torque (locks shaft); occurs after preset period of time.
  - Equivalent of 3% line reactor is included as standard
  - 300 meter lead length w/o filters

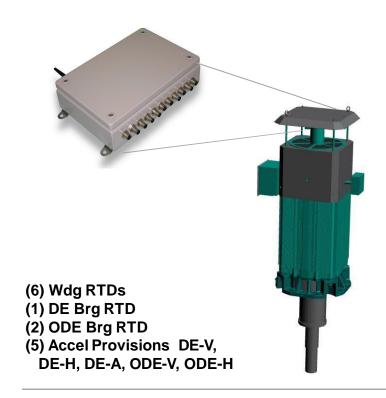


- Zero stacking capability
- 40 deg C ambient; higher with derate

| HP  | Amps | WL   | Size |
|-----|------|------|------|
| 150 | 180  | 2310 | R7   |
| 200 | 240  | 3300 | R8   |
| 250 | 302  | 4200 | R9   |
| 300 | 361  | 4800 | R9   |
| 350 | 414  | 6000 | R9   |

| Drive | Total HT | HT less terms | Width  | Depth  |
|-------|----------|---------------|--------|--------|
| R7    | 34.77"   | 23.6"         | 11.22" | 14.37" |
| R8    | 37.9"    | 26.8"         | 11.8"  | 15.2"  |
| R9    | 37.6"    | 26.7"         | 15"    | 16.3"  |

# Condition monitoring ABB MACHsense-R



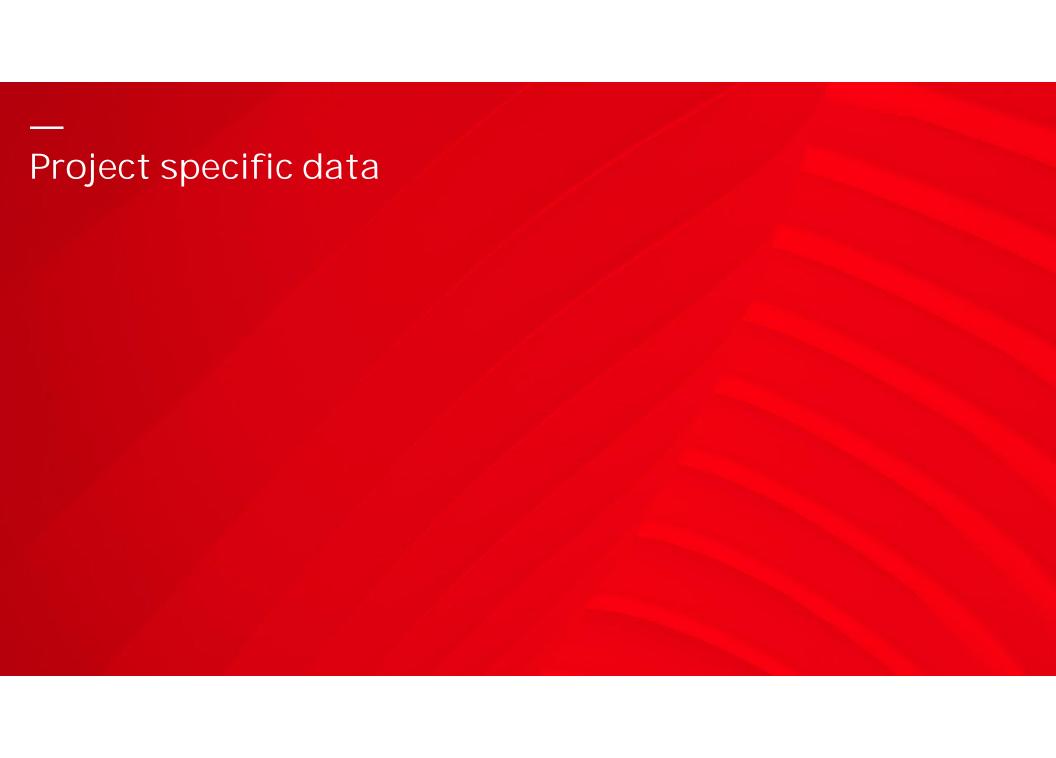
#### ABB MACHsense-R

- Development by ABB R&D
- Real time condition monitoring
- Monitor stator RTDs, bearing RTDs and accelerometers to be monitored. Dual outputs for use by both DF and ABB.

#### Measurements & Analysis of Data & Report

- Measurements and analysis are automatically performed by installed data collection system.
- Key Condition Parameters are
  - transmitted wireless to server
- Monthly report is later delivered by Local Service Center(LSC)





# Dry Fork Station Prototype installation



- (45) cell ACC
- Operational in 2011
- Installed (2) prototype units.
- Identified installation challenges.
- Motor #1 installed in April 2015.
- Motor #2 installed in April 2016.
- ABB provided hardware and DF performed the integration

Rating is 250 HP @ 104 rpm (12625 lb-ft)



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# Implications of leaking gearboxes





Cleaning of fan blades requires collecting all run off contamination



### Retrofit installation

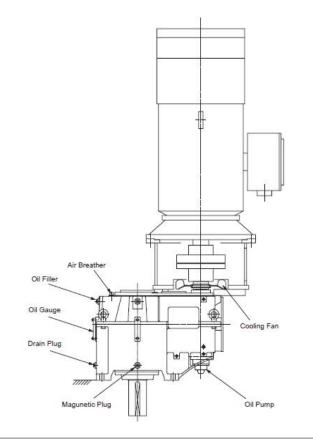


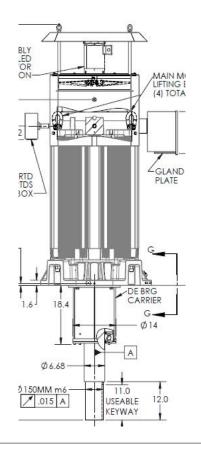
- Existing trolley system is rated for < 5000 lbs.
- How to install a drive motor that weighs more than the previous individual components?
- How to install a motor that is physically larger than the original components?

# Weight comparison

| Conventional<br>Solution |                                  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Motor                    | 3000 lbs.                        |  |
| Reducer                  | 2700 lbs.                        |  |
| Oil                      | 7 lbs/gal x 31<br>gal = 217 lbs. |  |
| Total                    | 5917 lbs.                        |  |

Installed: 1762 lb. difference or 30% more. Lifting: 7389 lbs.



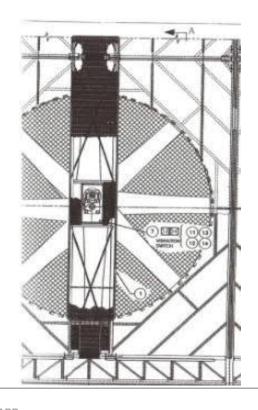


| Direct Drive |          |
|--------------|----------|
| Motor        |          |
|              |          |
|              |          |
| Total        | 7679 lbs |

Note: lifting weight is less blower assembly (290 lbs)

# Installation challenges

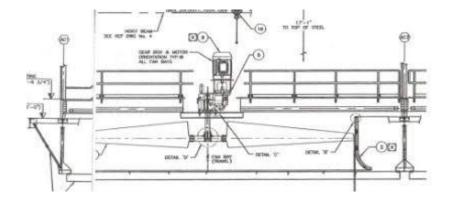
Motor #1



Motor 7800 lbs.

Mounting 3300 lbs.
plate
Hub 300 lbs.
Fan 3000 lbs.

Total 14,300 lbs.



Lifting fan/motor/deck assembly as long as spreader bar is used to ensure the through rods are in pure tension



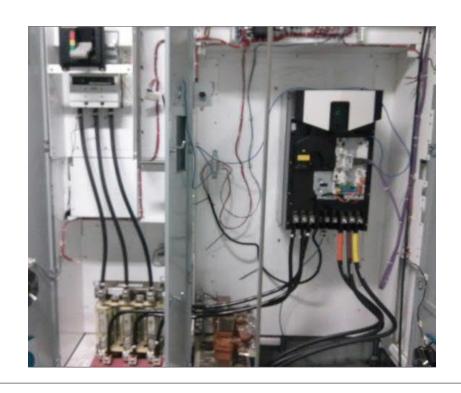
# Fan guard







# Drive installation



- Notice size of available space. Total length available is 56" including space for input breaker and input line reactor.
- Output reactor not required with ACS880 drive.
- Elimination of output line reactor will improve voltage level to the motor.

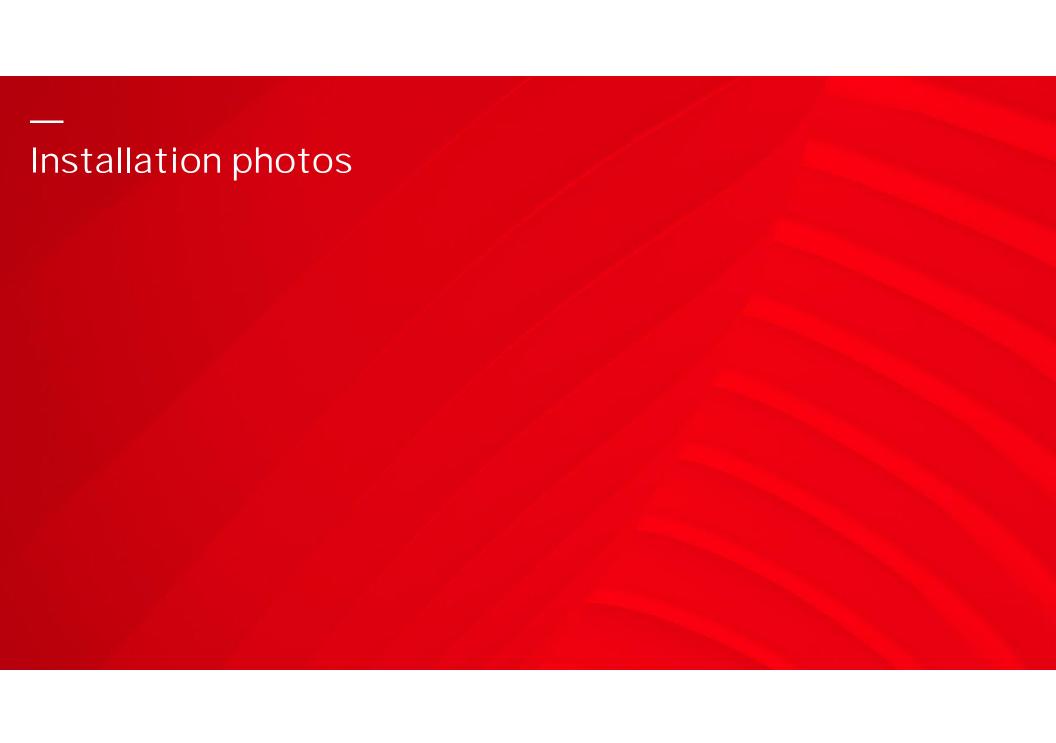


- Provides a "disconnect" for maintenance purposes.
- Not only disconnects the motor from the drive but also shorts the leads thereby preventing windmilling
- Utilizing the disconnect does not allow for trickle current functionality to be operational (space heaters)
- Able to stop unit from 75 rpm in reverse in approx. 5 seconds.

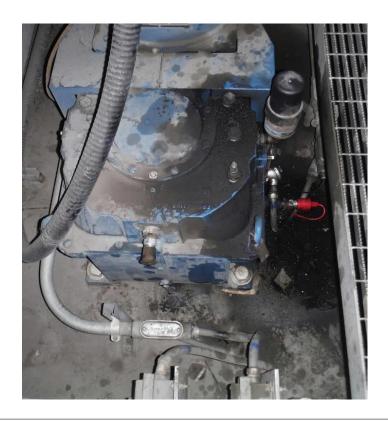
Advantages identified by Dry Fork

- Drain and flush gearboxes; 20-25% have already (5 years) been done due to silica. Unable to filter out
  due to fineness. Estimating will need to do this to all units on a 6-10 year cycle.
- Would have to rebuild/replace all gearboxes within 10 years. Would include carrier bearing in redesign.
- Significant number of gearbox units leaking oil. As noted in the pictures, significant cleaning is required.
- For environmental reasons alone, the ability alone to eliminate oil, maintenance and storage is significant.
- During winter months, to maintain proper oil flow to the gearbox, minimum fan speed is 15% of full speed.
- Estimating will be able to reduce maintenance manpower by 75% going to Direct Drive technology (man hours/unit).





# Typical motor and reducer drive installation



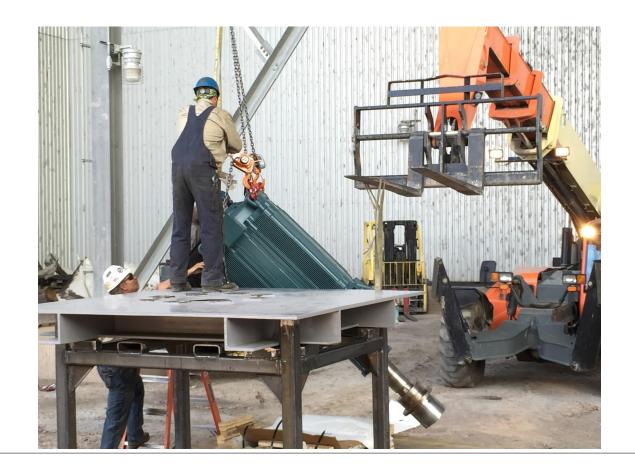




Permanent magnet motor ready for installation, fan hub installed on shaft at motor factory

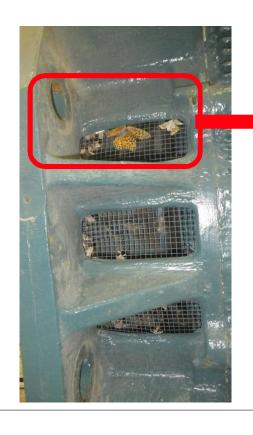








### Observations





The debris is on the outside on the Exhaust Screen and appears to have been sucked in towards the motor, signaling an incorrect airflow direction.

## Crane used for installatiopn







Changeout process took 24 hours once crane was on site

# Walkway





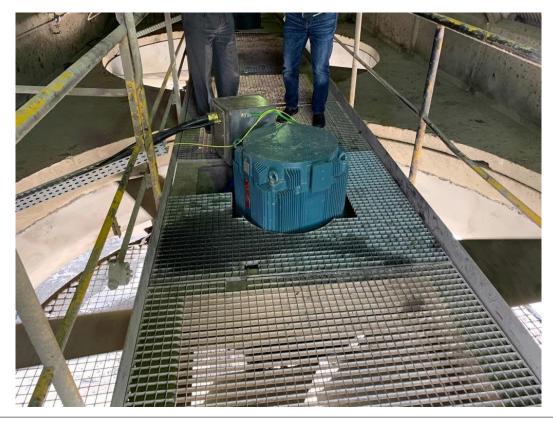
# replaced gearbox





## Direct drive motor





## Existing mounting plat was used for motor #1









# Motor and fan being reattached





## Site team designed & fabricated lifting mechanism





# New mounting place fabricated for motor #2







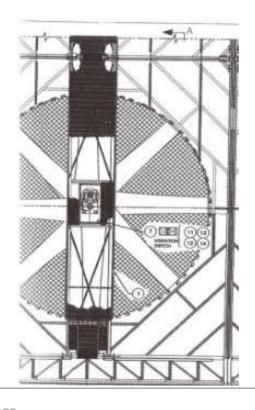
## Motor #2 at location 4.1







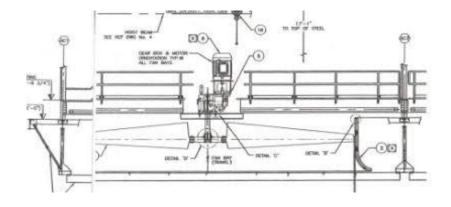
### Installation challenges



Motor 7800 lbs.

Mounting 3300 lbs.
plate
Hub 300 lbs.
Fan 3000 lbs.

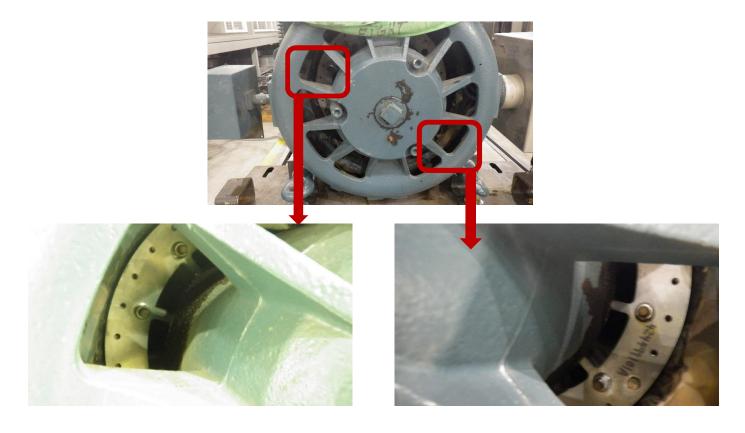
Total 14,300 lbs.



Lifting fan/motor/deck assembly as long as spreader bar is used to ensure the through rods are in pure tension



# Cleaner opposite drive end





# Cleaner opposite drive end

### Before





### After





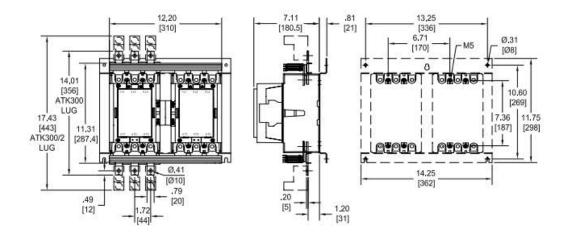


### Sound level data

|     | RPM | Value dba |
|-----|-----|-----------|
| 35  | 36  | 83        |
| 40  | 42  | 83        |
| 45  | 47  | 83        |
| 50  | 52  | 83        |
| 55  | 57  | 83        |
| 60  | 62  | 82.8      |
| 65  | 68  | 83        |
| 70  | 73  | 83.5      |
| 75  | 78  | 83.5      |
| 80  | 83  | 83.5      |
| 85  | 88  | 83.5      |
| 90  | 94  | 84.5      |
| 95  | 99  | 85        |
| 100 | 104 | 85.5      |

- Additional measured data:
  - Measured at door, closed, out of airstream
     83.5 dba
  - Siemens at same location 84 dba.
- Outside of ACC in walkway
  - Siemens was 82 82.5 dba
  - ABB was 81.5 dba
  - Siemens @ 6 ft 87 dba (1.3)
  - Siemens @ 6 ft 88 dba (1.2)
  - Siemens @ 3 ft 90 dba (1.1)

### Shorting/isolation contactor



Is available as an option to "hold" the fan (shorted) when the fan is in the stopped condition. Prevents the fan from windmilling. Upon a drive start command, the contactors change state and allow the drive to now control the motor.



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### Installation specifics

- 6 voltage buses; (3) with (8) motors and (3) with (7) motors
- Each voltage bus has (2) active harmonic filters installed in each MCC lineup
  - During operation of motor 1.4, it was determined that none of the harmonic filters were working
     Measured THD in excess of 17%. Units still out of operation as of this date.
- Crane used to install prototype units has been updated with chain hoist
- Retrofit changeout took (2) days both mechanical and electrical. Future installations will take 1.5 days. Crew of 5 including crane operator.
- Space heaters included for motor #2. The last 3 rows are shut down in the winter so power will be removed from the drive.
- Shorting/Isolation contactor installed in 2017.
- Replaced standard steel fan guard with Kevlar net system. Significant weight reduction savings.
- During the warmest weather conditions, it is difficult to operate all the fans at 100% speed because of low voltage bus conditions. All fans are set to operate based on current limit. Speed will decrease as voltage sags.



