

Vibration Analysis Training: ISO Category I + ASNT Level I

Quick facts

This three day course, with an additional 1/2 day for review and the exam, is the ideal starting place for new vibration analysts, people collecting vibration data, and those who want a better understanding of vibration analysis and condition monitoring.

The course exceeds the ISO 18436-2 Category I standard and meets the ASNT Level I Recommended Practice.

The certification exam can be taken after the course.

Additional One and ½ day are dedicated for practice and hands-on experience.

Course description

Duration:

ISO Category I + ASNT Level 1, standard course: 3 days + review and exam before noon of fourth day.

Description:

Are you ready to get started in vibration analysis and condition monitoring? You will enjoy this course!

You will come away with a solid understanding of why we monitor the condition of rotating machinery (and other critical assets), the importance of improved reliability, and how the vibration can be successfully measured and analyzed to provide an early warning of a wide range of fault conditions. You won't come away as an expert; that's what our more advanced courses are for. But you will know enough to make a valuable contribution to an existing program; be in a position to start a new program; determine if you should implement a program at your site; or better understand the program that exists in your plant.

Language:

Training delivered in Arabic and/or English based on the participants preference.

Training material is in English.

Aim:

You will come away from the course with a solid understanding of:

1. The benefits of performing condition monitoring and improving reliability
2. The condition monitoring technologies: acoustic emission, infrared analysis (thermography), oil analysis, wear particle analysis, motor testing
3. How machines work – via supplementary self-study via the "Equipment Knowledge" section
4. Why vibration measurements can tell you about the condition of the machine

5. How to collect good, repeatable measurements
6. What the Fmax, resolution, averaging and other analyzer settings mean
7. How to analyze vibration spectra, and the basics of fault diagnosis: unbalance, misalignment, looseness, rolling element bearings faults, resonance, and other conditions
8. An introduction to setting alarm limits

Who should attend?

If you have been performing vibration analysis for less than one year, or if you have been collecting vibration readings and leaving the analysis to another person, then this course is for you. This course is also designed for reliability engineers, PdM program managers, and other maintenance staff who would like to understand condition monitoring with a focus on vibration analysis, and take the ISO or ASNT exam.

What is unique about this course?

Mobius makes it unique. We use 3D animations, Flash simulations, and numerous software simulators that completely demystify vibration analysis. While vibration training courses have traditionally been very theoretical, difficult to understand, (and boring), you will be captivated by the Mobius Training methods, and you will enjoy our practical approach. You will take away skills that you can immediately apply to your job, and you will truly understand what you are doing. When senior vibration analysts attend our classes they often say "if only I could have learned this way when I got started" – well, now you can!

Addition benefits which are unique to Mobius Institute courses:

Classroom activities:

- Sitting and watching an instructor can be boring... When the instructor is using modern slides, 3D animations, and incredible simulators, there is no way that you will be bored, however there is nothing like hands-on participation.

Hands-on participation accelerates learning and enjoyment (depends on venue)

- In the Mobius Institute courses you can use the simulators, and you can collect readings and study real vibration patterns. There is no doubt that the simulators make it easier to understand the topics we cover – but when you can use them yourself, the learning is further accelerated.

Workbooks provide feedback – do you really understand?

- We also provide quiz questions that help you check if you really did understand the topics, and that you will be able to make the right decisions in the field (and in the exam). Every morning we have a lively discussion as we go through the questions.

Take away more than just knowledge

- We don't just deliver an excellent course. We provide you with resources that you can use before, during and after the course.

Get started before the course even starts

- Before you even start the course you can visit our Learning Zone Web site to take the self-paced iLearnVibration lessons (and read through the manual). These lessons will help prepare you for the course – you will learn so much more if you go into the course with this knowledge.

Excellent materials that you will treasure forever

- During the course you receive a pocket reference guide (a very handy booklet); a mouse pad that is covered with classic spectra representing common fault conditions; the famous Mobius pen that has a pull-out sheet of common fault conditions, an activity book of sample questions and answers, and our new 400+ page Category I manual. This new manual is easy to read, is filled with illustrations, follows the course slides exactly, contains an excellent “Equipment Knowledge” appendix, and can be used as a reference in the future.

Don't stop learning just because the course ends

- For six months after the course (or longer for a small fee), you can continue to access the iLearnVibration self-paced material on the Web site. If you forget something that you were taught, or you just want a refresher, then just jump on to the site and go through the fully narrated lessons.

Topics:

Maintenance Practices

First you are taught why we perform vibration analysis, and how it fits into the maintenance plan. We also emphasize the benefits of condition based maintenance and a reliability centered approach.

- What is breakdown maintenance and when should it be employed?
- What is preventive (calendar based) maintenance, and what are its major flaws?
- What is predictive (condition based) maintenance, and what are its benefits?
- What is proactive (reliability centered) maintenance, and what are its benefits?
- We use a Flash simulator that demonstrates the relationship between “infant mortality”, breakdown modes, and common maintenance practices – you may be surprised about what you will learn about preventive maintenance.

Condition monitoring

Next we summarize vibration analysis and describe five other technologies that can be utilized to determine the health of rotating machinery, and other key assets such as switchgear, insulators, compressed air systems, and others. These topics are summarized in order to give the attendee a working knowledge of each technology.

Acoustic emission (ultrasound):

- What is acoustic emission?
- What can it tell you about rotating machinery?
- How do you detect leaks and electrical faults?
- How can it be used to detect bearing faults?
- We use a simulator to demonstrate visually and audibly how acoustic emission tests are performed.

Thermography:

- What is thermography?
- How can it be used to detect faults in mechanical and electrical equipment?
- What is emissivity, and how does it affect the accuracy of the measurements?
- What are the key qualities of thermal imaging cameras?
- In addition to lots of thermal images, we have a number of Flash simulations that clarify the effect of emissivity and environmental conditions on the test results.

Oil analysis:

- How can it be used to check if the machine has a fault condition,
- How can you test if the lubricant is "fit for purpose"?
- What do viscosity, cleanliness, particle count, and other tests tell you?

Wear particle analysis:

- How are the tests performed?
- How can you learn about the nature of wear?
- How can you determine which components are wearing?
- How does it differ from conventional oil analysis?

Motor testing:

- What are the most common types of faults?
- What can motor current analysis tell you?
- What other test types tell you about the condition of the rotor, stator, and insulation?

Vibration analysis:

- Quick introduction to vibration analysis
- Spectrum versus overall level readings
- Walk-around versus on-line monitoring versus protection systems
- We use a number of samples of real data, and an excellent simulator that demonstrates the limitations of the overall level meter (that follows ISO standards). You won't believe your ears!

Principles of vibration

Now we get into the details of understanding vibration terminology and basic theory. This is the first time that the simulators will make a huge difference to your understanding of the topics covered. You will see exactly where the waveform comes from, how the spectrum is created, and why machines generate different frequencies.

Introduction to vibration measurement

- A quick introduction to the accelerometer and displacement probes
- A quick introduction to the vibration waveform (via live displays)
- We use a simulator and an analyzer that displays live vibration from an accelerometer. We use another simulator to show real data from machines with faults

An introduction to the time waveform

- What is the time waveform?
- How does it change with higher and lower frequency
- What is frequency and period?
- How does it change with amplitude
- What are rms, peak and peak-peak?
- What happens when the vibration includes multiple frequencies and amplitudes?
- We use a great simulator to demonstrate where the waveform comes from. We utilize a virtual dial indicator and a strip-chart recorder. You will never wonder what a waveform is again.

An introduction to the spectrum

- What is the spectrum, and what does "FFT" mean
- How can a spectrum be used to separate each source of vibration into a graph that highlights the different frequencies of vibration
- We use a fantastic simulator that totally demystifies the spectrum. The spectrum and waveforms are shown in an interactive, 3D simulation. We get our biggest "ah, ha!" moments here.

An introduction to forcing frequencies

- Using units of orders instead of Hz or CPM.
- Calculating forcing frequencies
- Identifying shaft speed
- Blade and vane passing frequencies, bearing frequencies, gearmesh frequencies, and more
- Gear and belt driven machines (multiple shafts with different turning speeds)
- We utilize a couple of great simulators that are used to illustrate how to calculate forcing frequencies. In one case, you drag and drop machine icons to calculate all of the frequencies from the machine.

Explaining the different vibration units

- What is the difference between acceleration, velocity and displacement?
- When would you use each type of unit?
- How to convert between each type of unit?
- We have two simulators that demonstrate the relationship between these three parameters. One demonstrates a car and the change in displacement, velocity and acceleration as it is driven in different ways. And the second simulator shows how the displacement, velocity and acceleration change with frequency.

A brief introduction to phase

- What is phase (in-phase, out of phase, phase angle)?
- Why is it important in vibration analysis?
- How is it measured with a single-channel analyzer, two-channel analyzer, and strobe?
- While our simple phase simulator provides a clear demonstration of the phase difference between two fans, the simulator that demonstrates phase measurement collection is incredibly popular. You can drag the optical tachometer onto a virtual machine, and then move the sensor on the machine to see the phase readings. It can also demonstrate two-channel and strobe measurements. You have to see it to believe it.

Data acquisition

The next major topic covered is data acquisition. A vibration analysis program will fail unless the vibration readings are collected correctly. They must be collected from the correct location on the machine, and they must be collected the same way each and every time – and that includes the operating conditions of the machine (speed and load). The Category I vibration analyst should not be the person who decides how the analyzer should be set up, nor should she/he decide where the measurements should be taken. However, given that some programs do not have a Category II analyst available, (and it is always important for every vibration analyst to understand these issues), we do discuss these important points in this section of the course. Many of the recommendations for measurement locations, analyzer setups and more come from the ISO standards and the Mobius Recommended Practice.

A quick review of data acquisition

How do we measure vibration?

- The non-contact eddy current displacement probe
- The velocity probe
- The accelerometer
- Just wait until you see the 3D animations of the accelerometers, velocity sensors, and proximity probes.

Where to place the sensor on the machine

- A sensible approach

Understanding axial, radial, vertical, and horizontal readings

- Do you really need to measure in three axes?
- What does one axis tell you that another will not?

A quick introduction to mounting the accelerometer and surface preparation

- Comparing handheld probes, magnetic mounts, and quick connect mounts
- The 3D animations will highlight the important differences
- What do you do if you cannot access the desired measurement point?

Naming conventions

- Where is position "1" on the machine?
- What does "MNDE" mean?

What are "routes" and how do you create them?

- Downloading, following, and uploading routes
- Why should you record your field observations when you are in the field (and why should you listen to the vibration during data collection)?
- Recognizing bad data (and deciding what you should do if you get bad data)

Signal processing

This section will take you through a quick tour of the operation of your data collector/analyzer, explaining some of the terms you will encounter. The analyzer requires settings to be established for your measurements such as the type and number of averages, the window type, the Fmax limit, the low frequency high pass filter setting, and the lines of resolution. This section is not intended to make you an expert; just make you aware of the importance of each setting, and how they will each impact the measurement quality.

A quick tour of your analyzer

Fmax and lines of resolution (LOR)

- The importance of selecting the correct Fmax and lines of resolution?

Spectral averaging

- What does averaging do, and why is it important?

You will see a number of simulators that make this potentially complicated topic very easy to understand. Instead of using overly technical terms and boring slides, the simulators demonstrate exactly what these settings do, and why they are so important. You get to see and hear the vibration, and see the final spectra – with correct and incorrect settings.

Vibration analysis

Now we get into the spectrum analysis process (we will also mention the benefits of enveloping, time waveform and phase analysis, but you have to wait until Category II before you learn more about those methods). In this section you will learn how the spectra can be displayed to determine if a fault condition exists. We discuss a number of the most common fault conditions, all supported with excellent 3D animations that demonstrate how the components move when the condition exists. After this section is complete you should feel very confident that spectrum analysis can be used to detect these faults, and you will have greater confidence in your ability to utilize spectrum analysis.

The spectrum analysis process

- Four steps to success
- The ISO standard

What is resonance – a quick introduction

- How does it affect your machines and your measurements
- Our resonance movies and simulator will open your eyes to the hidden threat that lives in every one of your machines and structures.

Diagnosing common fault conditions

- Unbalance
- Misalignment
- Looseness
- Rolling element bearing wear
- Common electric motor faults
- Common pump, fan and compressor faults
- Common belt drive and gearbox faults
- Just wait until you see the 3D animations, and the software simulators of the bearings and gearbox. You will understand exactly why the fault conditions exist. The special Mobius Institute pen, mouse pad, and pocket reference guide will help you to remember all of the rules in the future.

Setting alarm limits

One of the keys to a successful vibration analysis programs is the establishment of good alarm limits. In truth, very few programs have good alarm limits... In this section we explain how the band alarm and envelope (mask) alarm systems work, and how you can establish the limits. It is not the job of the Category I analyst to establish alarm limits, but it is important to understand the challenges involved, and the importance of setting good alarm limits.

The ISO standard for setting alarms

- How to use them
- Their limitations

Band alarms

- How they can be used to warn you of changes in vibration level
- How they can aid your analysis process
- Their limitations

Envelope alarms

- How they can be used to warn you of changes in vibration level
- Their limitations

Using the machine modeler simulator, you will see how the envelope alarms and band alarms can be established on any machine that you can describe.