

# Desorber Trial – RWE Littlebrook Power Station





## Background

- Littlebrook part of RWEnpower group
- Oil fired power station (Peak loading)
- Located by River Thames, Dartford Crossing
- 3 x 685MW GE Turbines
- Only 2 turbines in operation, 1 turbine mothballed
- Supported by 6 Olympus GT's
- CJC prospect as units already installed elsewhere within group
- Turbine engineer contacted in October



# System Details

- Hydraulic turbine control unit No.2 turbine
- Unit filled with FRHF Castrol Anvol PE 46 (phosphate ester)
- System volume 1600 litres
- Integrated vacuum & filter unit for water removal, acid and particle control

# System Problems

- Water ingress, particularly under certain start-up conditions
- Particle carryover from filter bags (Fullers earth)
- In-line filter blocking
- High usage of FRHF £2500/barrel



# Hydraulic Turbine Control Filtration Unit







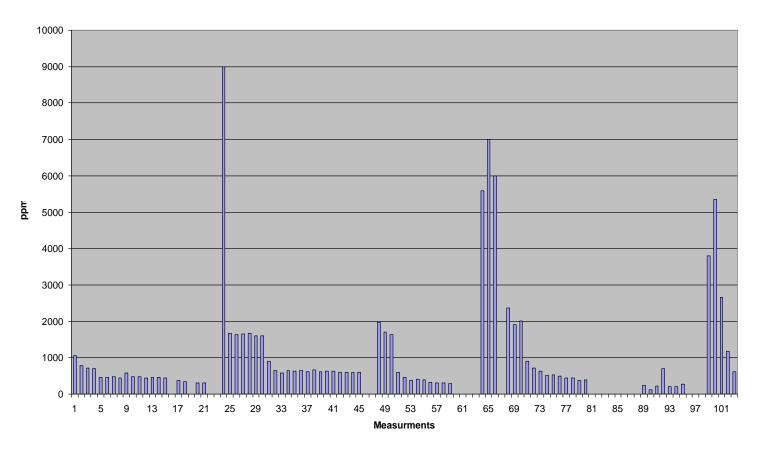


#### Trial Details

- Following discussions Desorber D30 recommended
  - Also details given on CJC ion exchange unit
- No previous experience with Desorber / FRHF
- Unit connected towards end Oct 2008
- Instant water removal 1300 ppm to 400 ppm
- Some problems with tripping due to station voltage fluctuations
- Desorber runs alongside vacuum unit, not instead of
- Unit does not run 24/7 water levels vary, but Desorber controls to acceptable level
- Station also hiring HDU 27/54 unit to supplement filtration
  - Set up not ideal as cannot run at same time a Desorber



#### Water Content - No.2 Turbine



### **Conclusions**

- Desorber D30 considered a success by station
  - Water content maintained to acceptable levels
  - Considerable savings in usage of expensive oil to be achieved
- RWE Littlebrook placed orders Dec 2008 for
  - Desorber D30 hire unit @ £13750
  - Desorber D30 with voltage control @ £16530
  - Ion Exchange HDU 2\*27/54 with voltage control @ £8645
- Future
  - Advise Littlebrook to achieve optimum installation
  - Lever success into other power stations