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#### The Foundation for a High Efficiency Plant:

#### **Operator Training and Practical Thinking**

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#### **Operators Training**

## An Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) you can't turn down....



#### **Example Existing Plant** August 2013: Day One

Example Chiller Plant: 10,000 Ton system

Average Energy Rate: 0.778 kW/ton

Average Generation Rate: \$0.12/kWh

Cost Per Hour: \$934/hr.

Equivalent Annual Rate: \$2,054,800/yr.





#### First Operating Training August 2013: Day Two

Example Chiller Plant: 10,000 Ton system

Average Energy Rate: 0.668 kW/ton

Average Generation Rate: \$0.12/kWh

Cost Per Hour: \$801/hr.

**Equivalent Annual Rate:** 

\$1,763,520/yr.

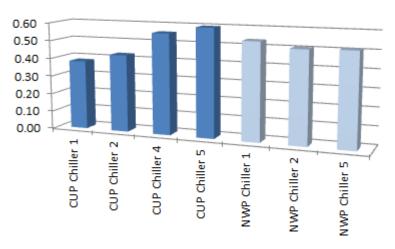
Savings: \$291,280/yr.

14% Reduction in one day!

No Capital Investment cost!

Payback in Months

#### Chiller Average kW/Ton





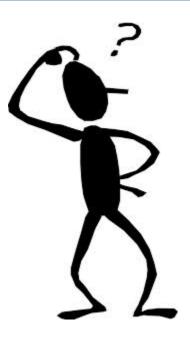
#### **Questions for Yourself**

Why do Operator Training?

How to do Operator Training?

WHY....

Train operators now?





#### WHY.....Train operators now?

- In 70s and 80s most of the operators came from Navy.
  - Too stubborn
- Unions forced and were successful in licensing codes on who can operate the energy plant.
- Todays operators have some college background and are hungry to learn.



#### WHY.....Train operators now?

- Management were not used to spending funds in training operators so "status Quo" made sense.
- Today operators do not operate equipment, they operate system.
- Changing the operation efficiency hardly requires any capital investments
- Consultants with white hair and willing to share knowledge are dying breed.
  - So make use of them and get rewarded.



#### **System Costs**

- Energy System (Plant, Distributions and Utilization) Costs millions of dollars.
- Think about your training and development costs over the last few years vs. the total cost of operations in your plant.....
- Efficiency is often confused with reliability risks?
  - Most operators aren't aware that efficient doesn't mean unreliable.
  - These thoughts and fear must first be removed by example and education.



#### **Our Culture and Tradition**

- Stop putting fear of failure in operators mind.
- Empower them and reward them for trying
- Humans are habitual creatures.
- Long time way of doing things.
- Requires an investment in slowly changing the traditions and habits.
- Giving the operators the tools to make the transitions smooth and easy.





#### **Enhanced Optimization**

- Much Complexity is added to the plant
  - Black Box Optimization
  - Automation
- Use of Black boxes will make plant operations even more confusing to the average operator that may not have a full understanding of the equipment.
- How much has been overridden
  - Set points hosted back to reliability
  - Running equipment in manual.
- Black Boxes provides false security and inhabits empowering operators.



## Start with the simple optimization: Operator Training and Practical Thinking

- This is our bread and butter.
- A great foundation for adding the enhanced optimization.
- Creates an environment of practical thinking.
- Empowers the operator.

Leading to the Question.....



# HOW.... Do it the Right Way.



## Start with the Basics....Know Your Equipment and System

- Collecting Design and operating Data
- System Surveying by senior staff
  - Get the guys with Grey hair!!!
- Identifying and digesting system opportunities
- Work with operators and change operations with their help.
- Discuss before and after results and educate operators in layman language to build his/her confidence.



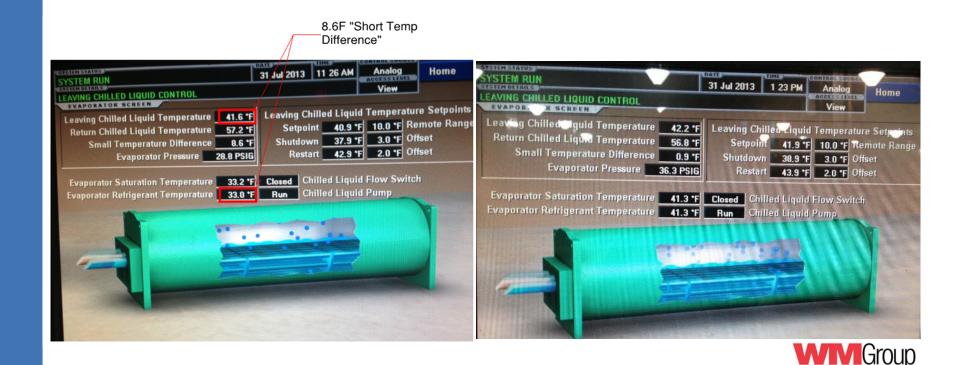
#### Match Generation, Distribution, Demand

- This may be the most important part.
- Convince the operator that
  - Chilled water is not for cooling, it is for dehumidification
  - Peak load is limited to less than 300 hours a year,
- Understand the requirements of the demand.
  - Chilled Water Requirements
  - Steam Requirements
- Limits of the distribution system
  - How much capacity can be regained.
- Do not just buy the next piece of equipment for millions of dollars.



#### Lead by Example

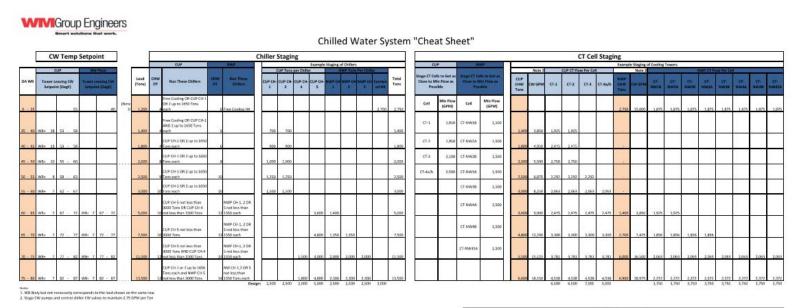
- Operators must be trained by showing them.
- Remove fear from operators.
- Show them the results.



Smart solutions that work

#### Provide the Tools.

• Simple tools that make operation decisions easier- Cheat Sheet



Notes:

1) Pump curves not available. Recommendations based on trended performance.

9	CW Pun	np Staging	3		
CUP CHW Pump Staging		NWP CHW Pump Staging			
Flow Range	Active Pumps	Flow Range			Active Pumps
Pump curves and pump performance trends not available (no CW DP.		0	-	10,000	1 CW Pump
Pump KW data not reliable). P	on CHWP 1 and/or 2 and/or 3 and/or 4	10,000	+	17,000	2 CHW Pumps
when CHWP-5 would run at a speed less than 60%.		17,000	40	+	3 CHW Pumps

## Experience and Case Studies

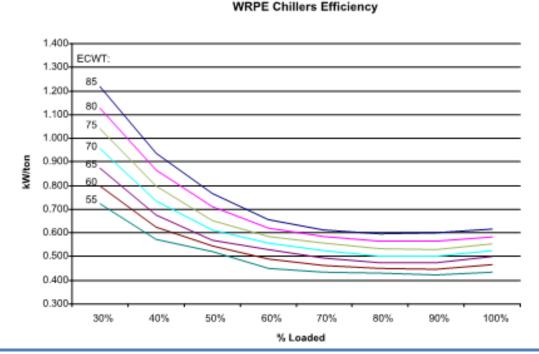




#### Architect of the Capitol (AOC)



- 30,000 ton chilled water system.
- Savings of \$450,000/yr.



#### **Actual Operator Comments: Most Useful Parts**

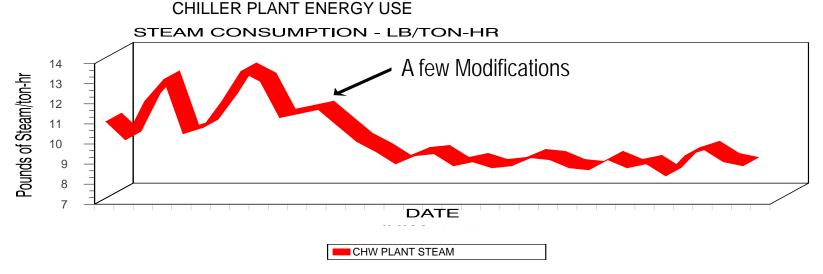
- Information compiled
- Rethink old and new ways to operate
- Strategies for operations

- Guide to successfully operate
- Getting everyone on the same page
- Relating Data to Operations



#### Northeastern University #1

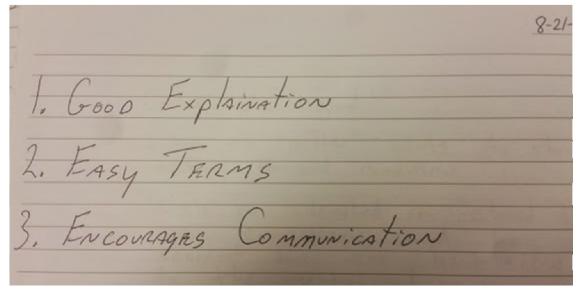
- Plant outsourced plant operation
- 25,000 ton chilled water system.
- New operator team was not familiar with the existing equipment.
- Engaged in all day training sessions to educate, and operate with great efficiency.



#### Northeastern University #2

- 10,000 ton chilled water system.
- Very Low Delta T in winter. 6 degrees
- Hydraulic Imbalance
  - Pump Staging required
- Cooling Tower Staging
- Chiller Staging
- Savings of \$150,000/yr.
- Identified \$370,000/yr.

Q: What was useful? All of it. The towers, the pumps, and chiller performance.





#### **Lockheed Martin**

- 4000 ton chilled water system.
- Regained Capacity of Chilled Water Plant

#### Chilled Water Operator Training Feedback.

- Overall Comment
  - Learned a lot about our system.
- II. What Part you found most useful.
  - That we have enough supply to be able to put the rest of the plant on chilled water.





#### Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS)

- Unique Project
- BMS wanted to ensure that operators were well trained, and knowledge was sustained for long term
- BMS engaged in a year long Operational Oversight
  - Daily Review of System Operation-interact with operators
  - Cheat Sheet for System Operations based on Big Data Analytics
  - On site monthly for additional training and review
- Immediate Project Payback





#### Summary

- Operators training is not a luxury. Make it a requirement
- Operators training Empowers operators.
- Empowerment initiates changes by operators
- Improved plant operation initiated by operators gives him a reason to wake up in the morning and report to work
- Generally no capital funds are required.
- Payback is in months not years.



### An ECM you can't turn down....Operator Training.

#### **Thank You**

#### **WMGroup**

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Contact Hemant Mehta for a no cost health check of your system

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