

# Condition Monitoring & Condition Based Maintenance

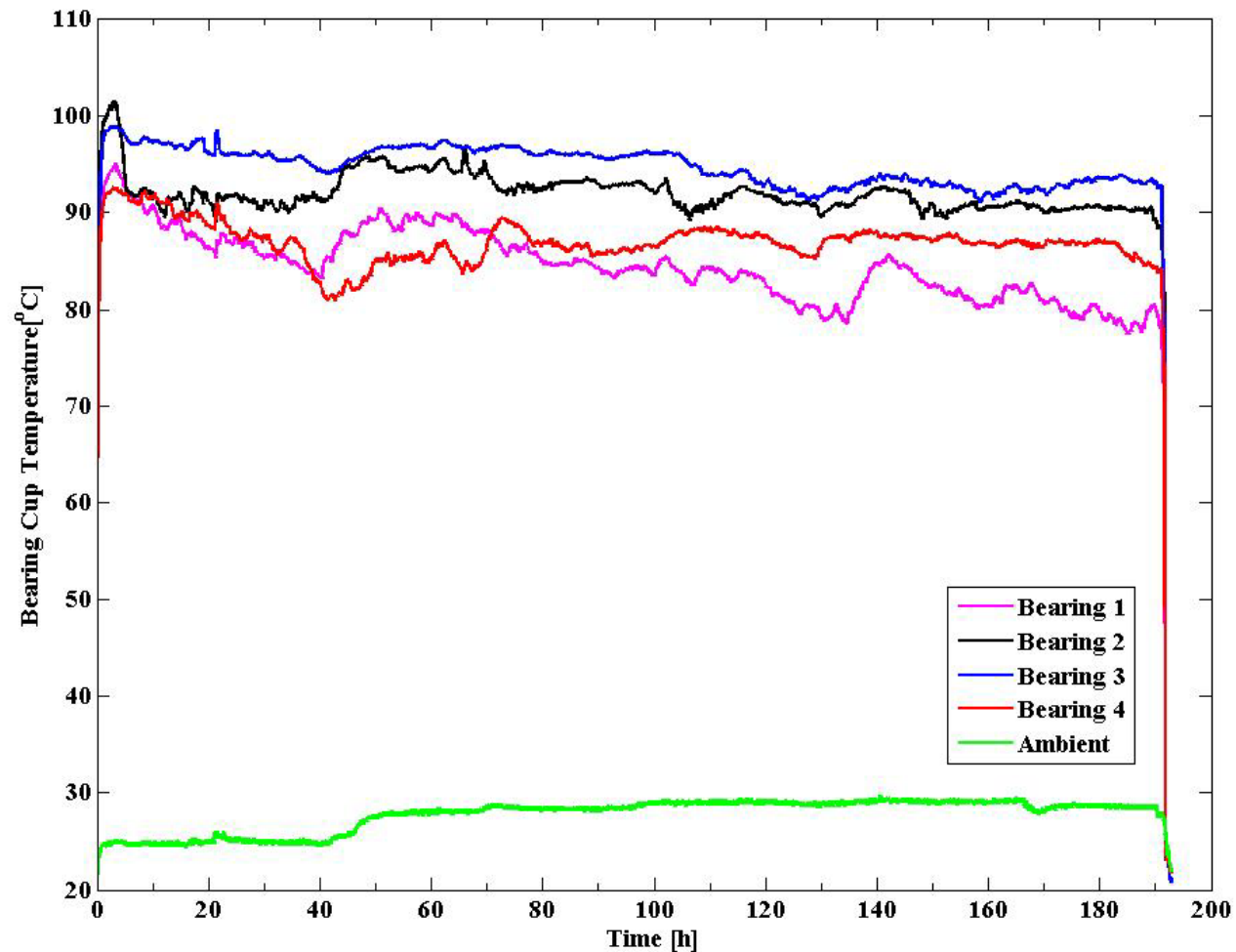
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Director of Research and Development

Amsted Rail



# Why Condition Monitoring??



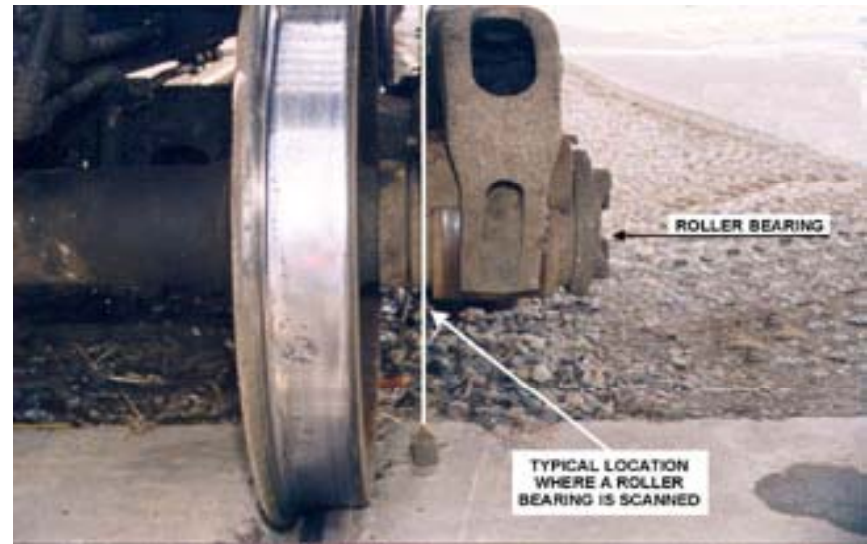
# Wayside Detection

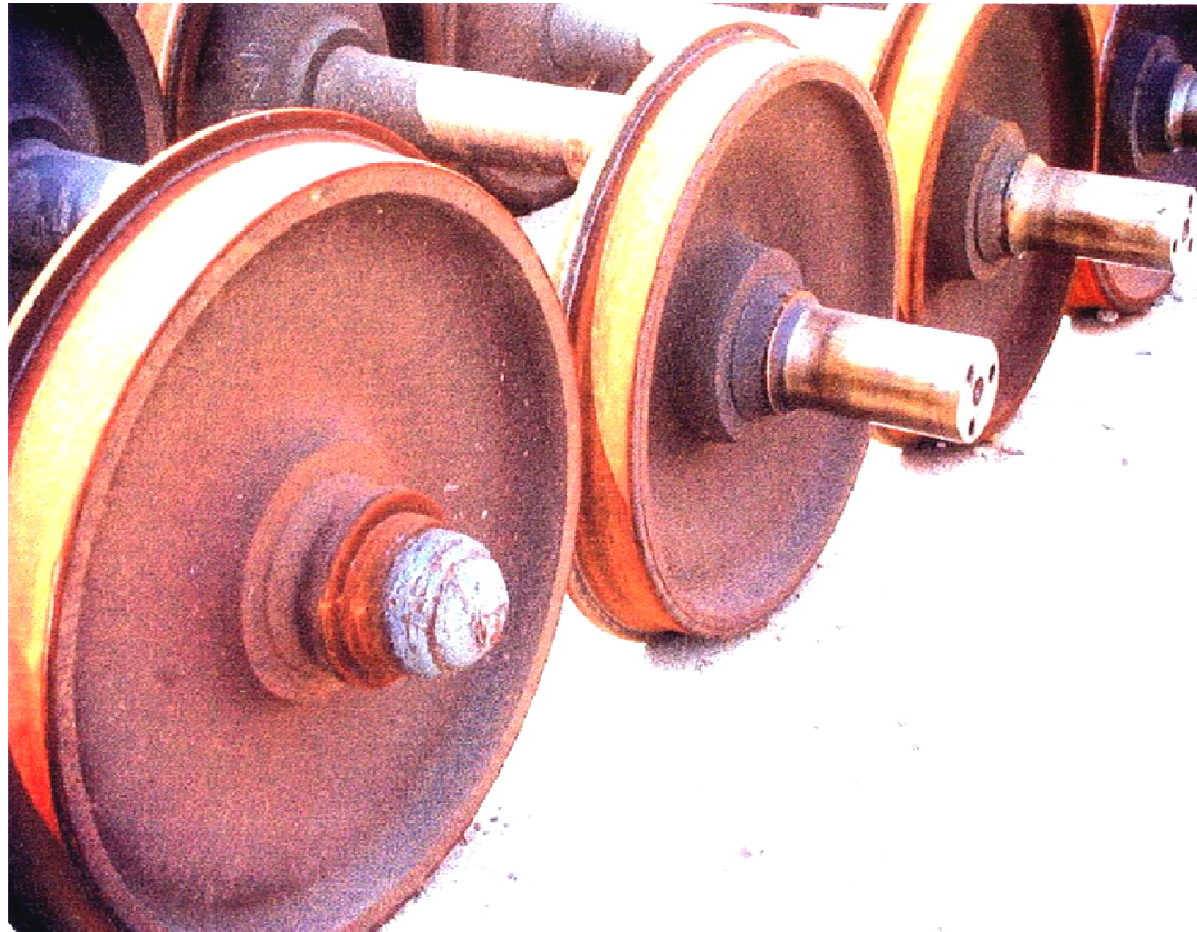
- A primary reason for bearings to be pulled is due to overheating
  - Bearing overheating is detected by a hot box scanner
  - Hot Box Trigger is @

$T > 170^{\circ}\text{F}$  above ambient

- A primary reason for wheels to be pulled is through impacts

Load > 90 kips





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**WRI 2012**





a)



b)



c)

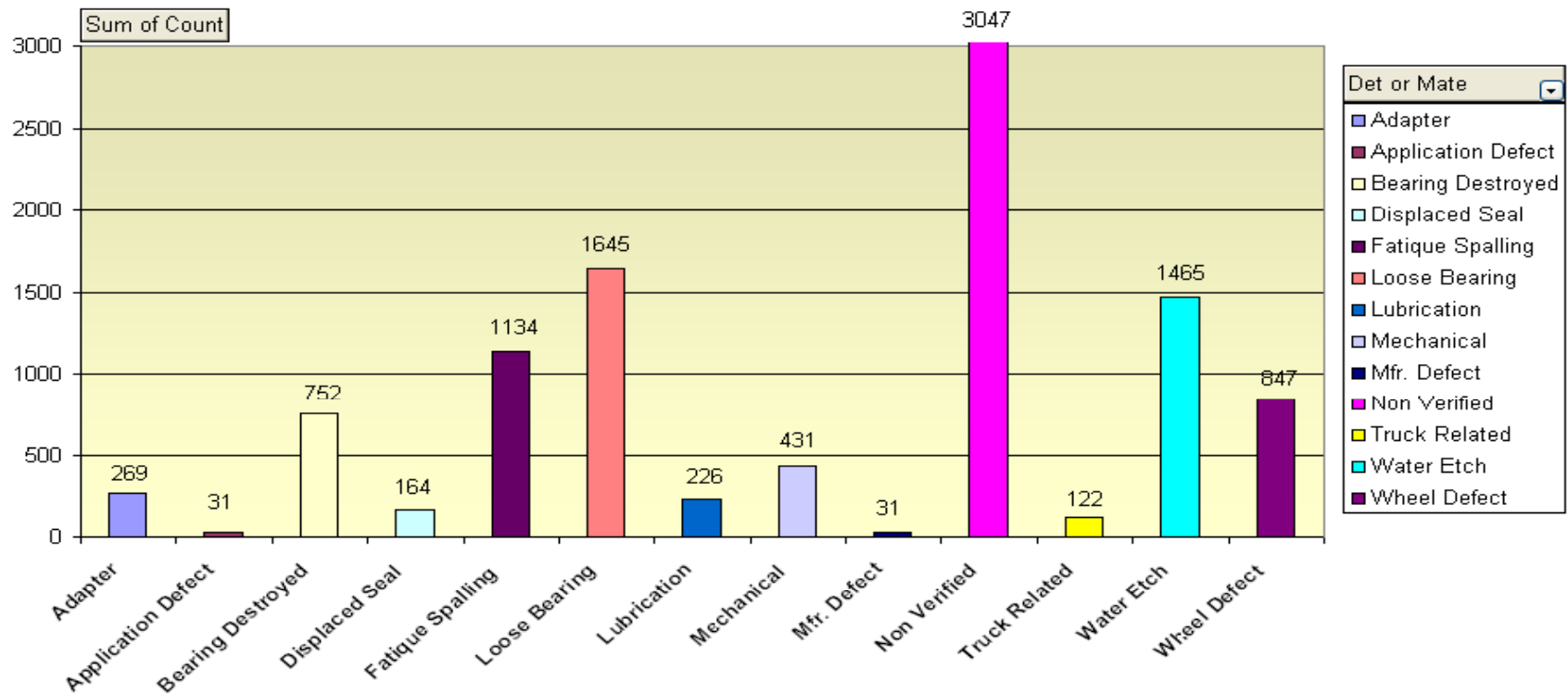


d)

a) Wheel flat b) Shell / Spall  
c) Shattered rim d) Built-up-tread



# WMC 50 removals







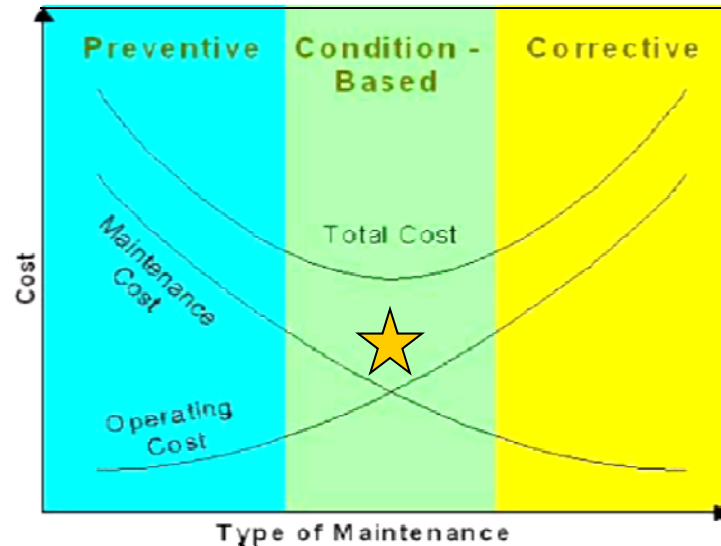


# Condition Based Maintenance (CBM)

## Maintenance Philosophies

### Preventive Maintenance

- **Scheduled** maintenance - based on life statistics of similar equipment
- **High** maintenance costs - unnecessary maintenance
- **Low** operating costs – limited downtime scheduled



### Corrective Maintenance

- Run equipment to **failure**; no scheduled maintenance
- **Low** maintenance costs – performed only **after** failure
- **High** operating costs – downtime and damage

### Condition Based Maintenance

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| * Maintenance <b>when required</b>            | * Unnecessary maintenance is avoided                  |
| * Availability of the equipment is guaranteed | * <b>Overall</b> cost is reduced                      |
| * Extends useful life of equipment            | <b>but...</b> * Condition monitoring <b>adds cost</b> |

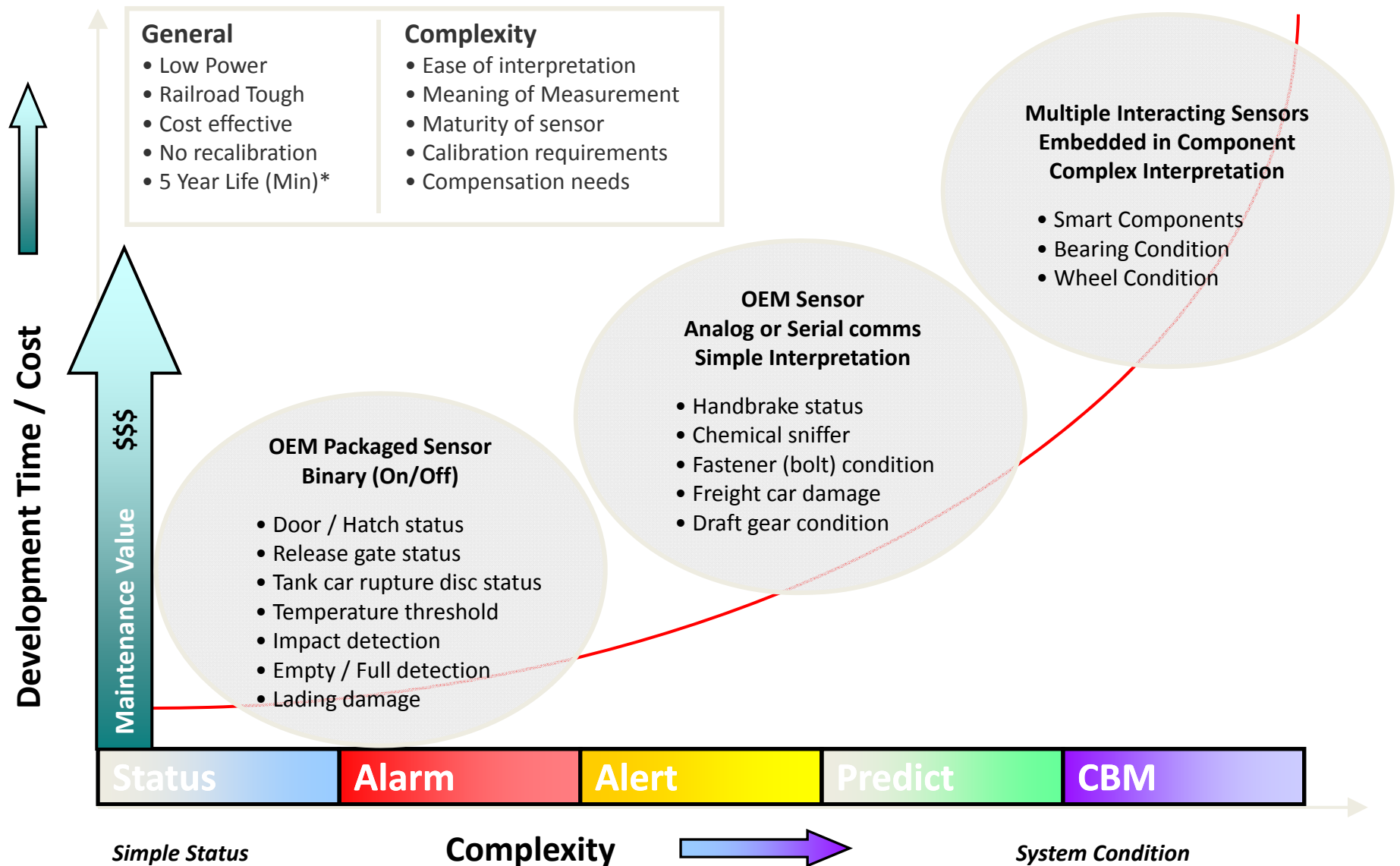


# Why do we care about CBM?

- CBM opportunity: 5-12% savings on Life Cycle Cost
- Metrics support better quality and premium performance
- Condition Monitoring supports:
  - Higher reliability
    - Less downtime – asset utilization
    - Higher network velocity – efficiency and productivity
  - Reduced network congestion
    - Heavier freight cars (315 Klb GRL)
    - Higher operating speeds
  - Lower transportation costs (One Engineer locomotive operation, etc.)

<b>Railroad</b>	<b>Increased train velocity and productivity</b>
<b>Car Owner</b>	<b>Reduced costs and higher asset utilization</b>
<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Differentiation; premium price; metrics to benchmark</b>

# Wireless Sensing - Ease of Development



# Condition Monitoring

- Condition Monitoring represents the highest value to
  - Railroads
  - Shippers
  - Car owners
- Condition Monitoring enables pre-emptive maintenance

(Fix It only when necessary - before It falls - at convenient time / location)
- Algorithm (mathematical model and logic) development
  - **Effort** intensifies along the spectrum from status to CBM



- **Complexity** intensifies along the spectrum
- Laboratory and field test **data** volume and analysis increases
- Benefits everyone by getting the full useable life out of OEM products
  - Opens the door for premium/long-life components





# Bearing Monitoring & Locomotive Alarm System

SCT Logistics, Australia



**Amsted Rail**

**IONX**





**System Commissioning**  
**Inaugural test run from Melbourne to Perth approx. 4,000 Km**



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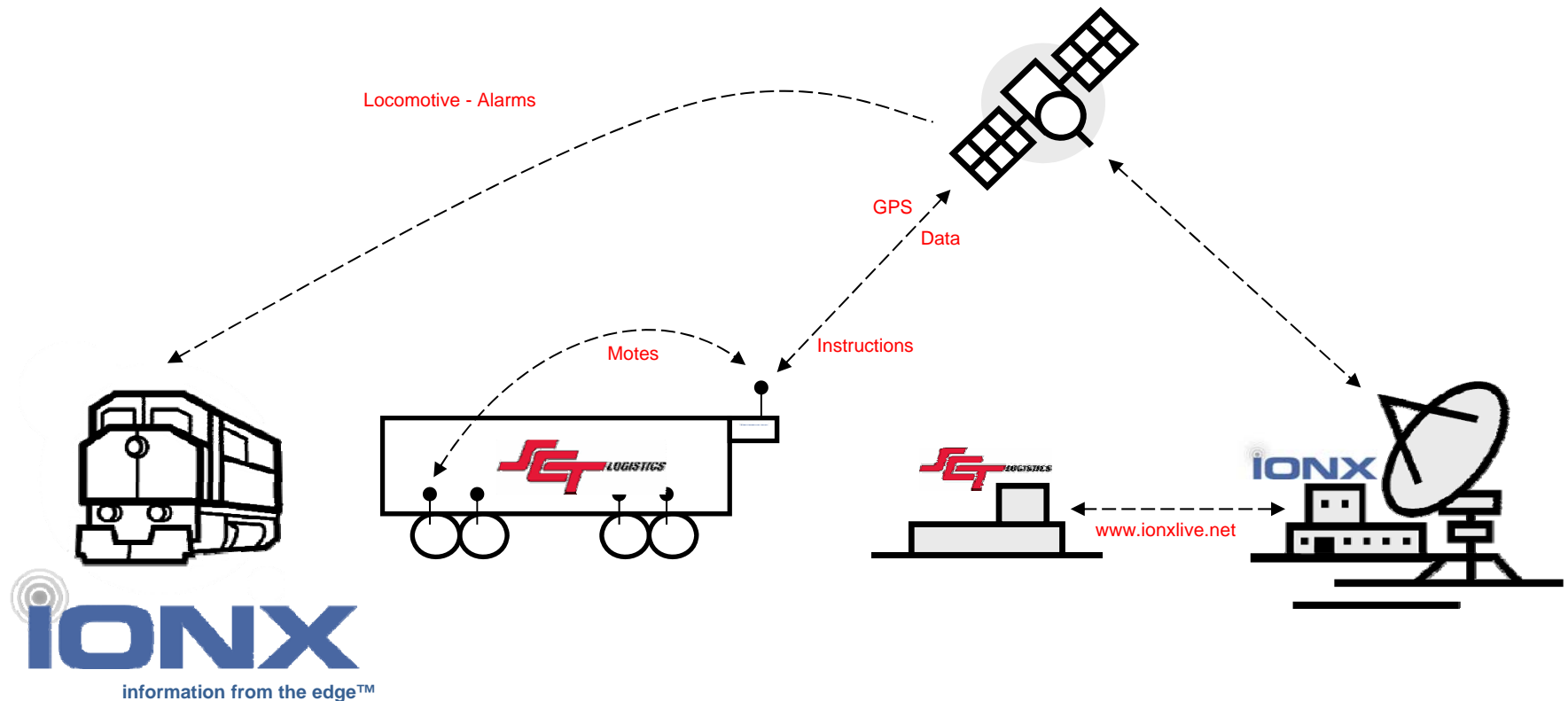
# Solution Overview

## Challenges:

### (1) Data logging

- > ½ million temperature readings/day on 10 cars
- Daily uploads from Australia to West Chester, PA

### (2) Communicating alarms to locomotive engineer







IONX Display Unit for alarms installed in Locomotive

Locomotives equipped with IONX satellite communications



Dual Satellite/Cellular Mode CMU installed on SCT Wagon

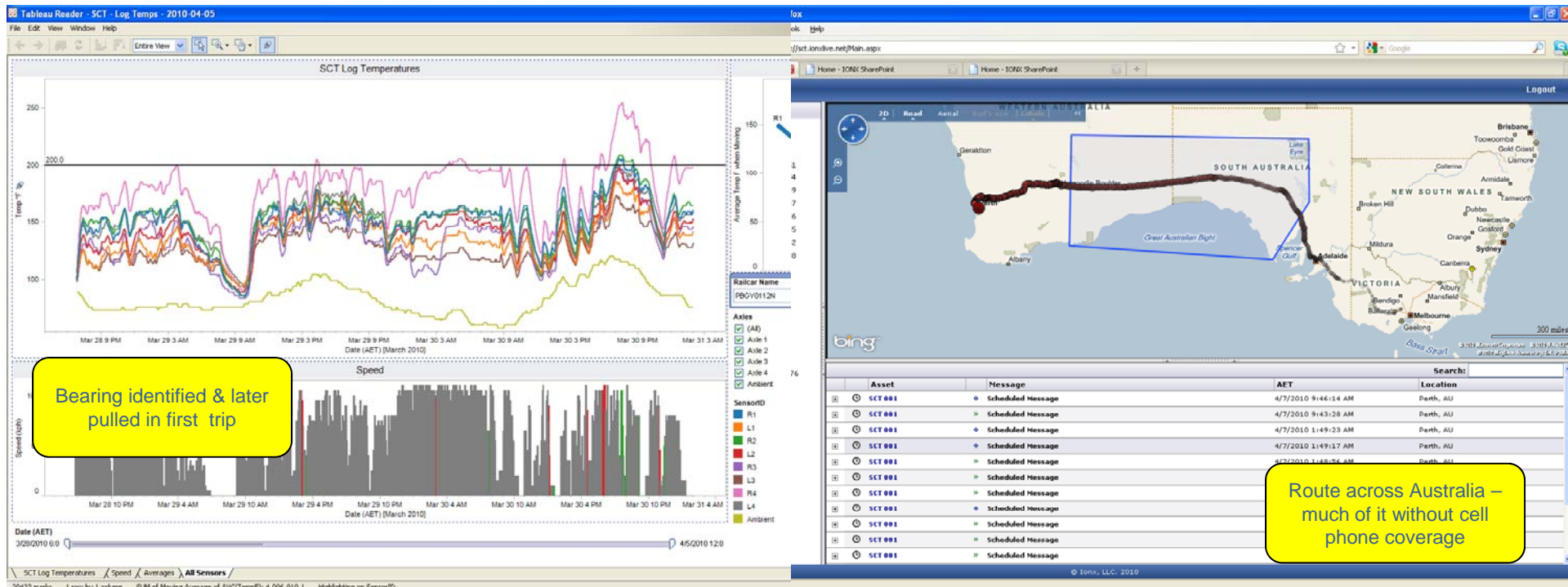


Wireless temperature sensor bolted to standard adapter

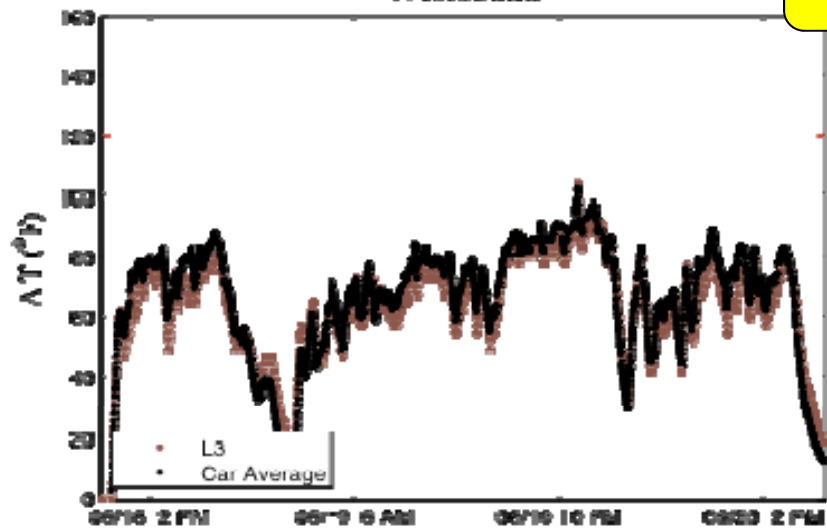


# Alert Instructions

Stage	Alert	Level	Action
1	Bearing Trending Alert	>200°F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alarm to IONX only. – not sent to locomotives</li> <li>• Used for trending recommendations &amp; repeat offender identifications</li> </ul>
2	Axle Differential Alarm	>105°F axle differential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action: Stop train, check journal of alarmed bearing. Look for signs the bearing is “walking off” the axle or grease is being purged.</li> <li>• Proceed at reduced speed of 60 kph maximum until stage 2 alarm clear message is received at locomotive terminal</li> <li>• If stage 2 alarm clear message is received at the locomotive terminal, proceed as normal</li> </ul>
3	Above Ambient Alarm	>190°F above ambient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action: Stop train, check journal of alarming bearing. Look for signs the bearing is “walking off” the axle or grease is being purged</li> <li>• Proceed at reduced speed of 30 kph maximum until stage 3 alarm clear message is received at the locomotive terminal at which point speed can be increased to 60 kph.</li> <li>• If the alarm message does not clear, a choice can be made to remove and change the bearing at an appropriate stoppage point, otherwise reduced speeds are required to reduce the chance of a screwed journal.</li> <li>• If Stage 2 and Stage 3 alarm clear messages are both received at the locomotive terminal, proceed as normal</li> </ul>
4	Bearing Temp Alarm	>320°F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action: Stop train, remove bearing.</li> </ul>

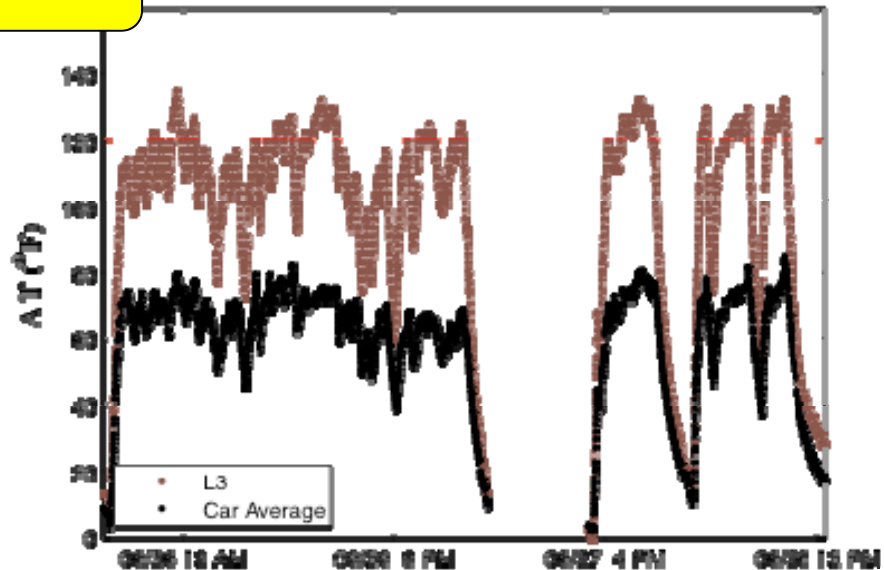


**Temperature above Ambient (PBC-Y0130L)  
Westbound**



Other anomalies have also been identified

**Temperature above Ambient (PM-Y0130L)  
Eastbound**



# Bearing Condition Monitoring

## Faulty Bearing Detected During the Inaugural Run



- This bearing exhibited temperatures significantly above >200F, and trended towards higher temperatures compared to its peers
- The acoustic bearing detector reported this bearing as normal
- After the trip the bearing was removed, and a subsequent inspection discovered a short lateral as the primary cause



# Bearing Condition Monitoring

- Bearing 130L-L3 (Node 6) was pulled on 7/30/2010 using logic algorithms
- Subsequent teardown and inspection revealed spalling and discoloration on the raceways (below left)
- Bearing was run to failure in the laboratory at 86,000km (11 trips)
- Replacement eliminated the fault (below right)



Algorithm results before/after bearing change

<i>July</i>	Level 2.1	Level 2.2	Level 2.3	Level 2.4	Level 2.5
Node	≥25% Temp≥200F	≥25% ΔT≥120F	≥1σ Above Car	≥1σ Above Fleet	≥4% Slope≥1.25
1	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
2	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
3	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
4	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
5	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
8	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗



<i>August</i>	Level 2.1	Level 2.2	Level 2.3	Level 2.4	Level 2.5
Node	≥25% Temp≥200F	≥25% ΔT≥120F	≥1σ Above Car	≥1σ Above Fleet	≥4% Slope≥1.25
1	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
2	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
3	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
4	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
5	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
6	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
7	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
8	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗



# Bearing Condition Monitoring



# Bearing Condition Monitoring

The system detected an issue with the A-end truck on wagon 130L which is causing all the bearings on that truck to trend warm.

Criteria	Node	November '10	December '10	January '10
3.1 %Temp $\geq$ 200F	5	6.162	2.316	7.468
	6	8.669	6.554	7.297
	7	3.79	0.373	4.113
	8	2.212	2.888	3.344
3.2 % $\Delta$ T $\geq$ 120F	5	1.929	1.284	1.816
	6	8.159	6.716	8.109
	7	2.141	0	0.673
	8	0.182	1.555	0.385
3.3 n $\sigma$ Above Car	5	0.27	0.205	0.168
	6	0.381	0.351	0.312
	7	0.239	0.021	0.051
	8	0.041	0.091	0.123
3.4 n $\sigma$ Above Fleet	5	0.809	0.43	0.76
	6	0.901	0.562	0.868
	7	0.782	0.251	0.668
	8	0.611	0.32	0.726
3.5 %Slope $\geq$ 1.25	5	2.301	3.094	2.019
	6	3.038	3.56	2.32
	7	2.398	2.956	2.47
	8	0.991	1.803	1.149

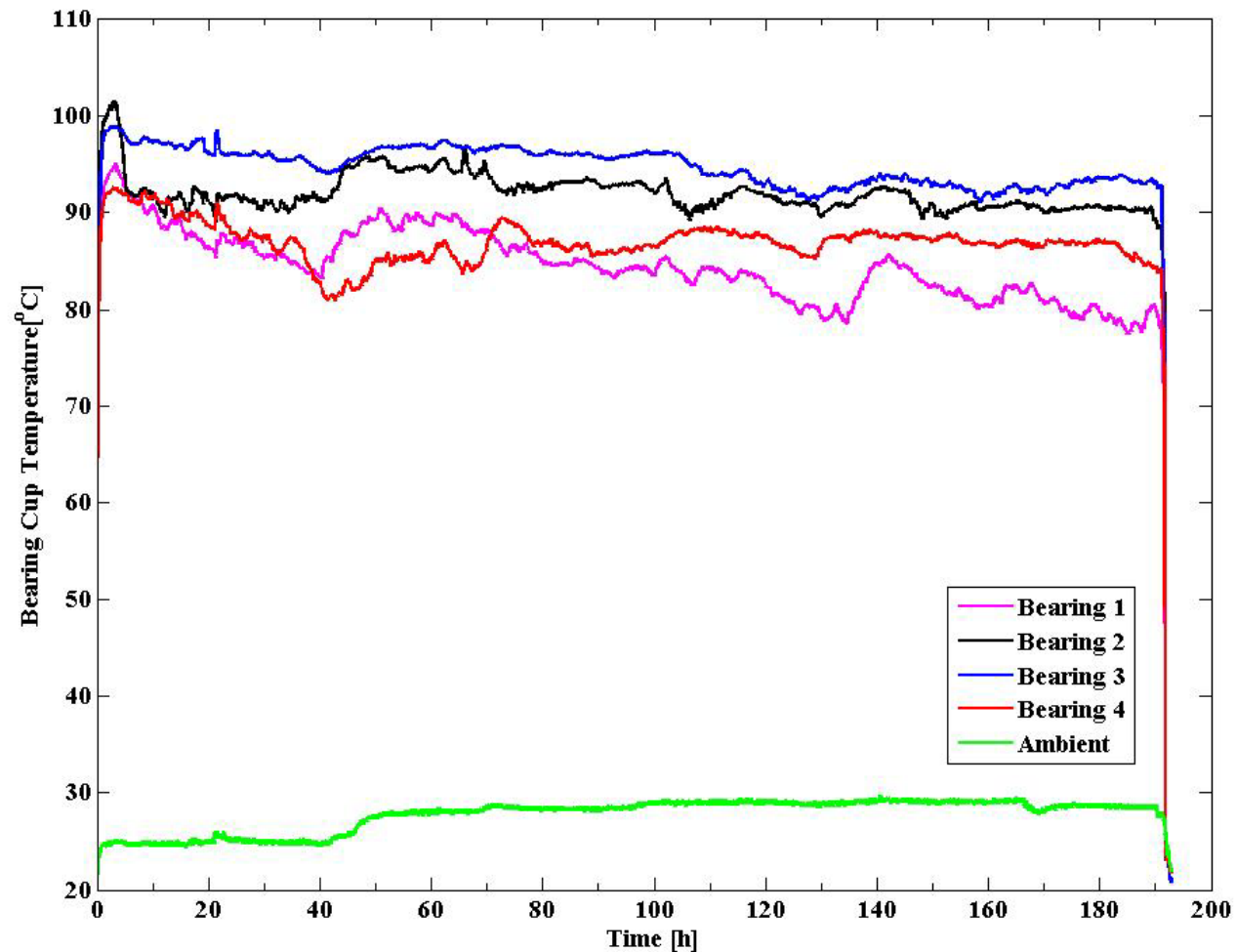
- PBGY 130L
  - From November to January, the A-end truck bearings on wagon 130L have been trending warm and tripping several Level 3 Alarm Criteria.
  - This condition has been worsening steadily throughout the trial.
  - All bearings on the truck were removed January 16, 2011 for wheel spalls. At that time, the issue receded but it is slowly worsening.
- Recommendations to GEMCO:
  - Inspect bearings which were removed from the truck
  - If bearings have been reconditioned, get inspection report for IONX
  - Continue to monitor for future degradation

# Bearing Condition Monitoring

- GEMCO has changed 44 wheels on 10 wagons between 4/2010 and 7/2011
- Only 41% of bearing positions perform better after a wheel set change out
  - 29% perform the same after a wheel set change out
  - 30% perform worse after a wheel set change out
- A classic example of how component maintenance sometimes results in bearings that perform worse than the original bearings that were replaced
- SCT can leverage this information to question reconditioned bearing quality supplied by its maintenance supplier (GEMCO)



# Why Condition Monitoring??



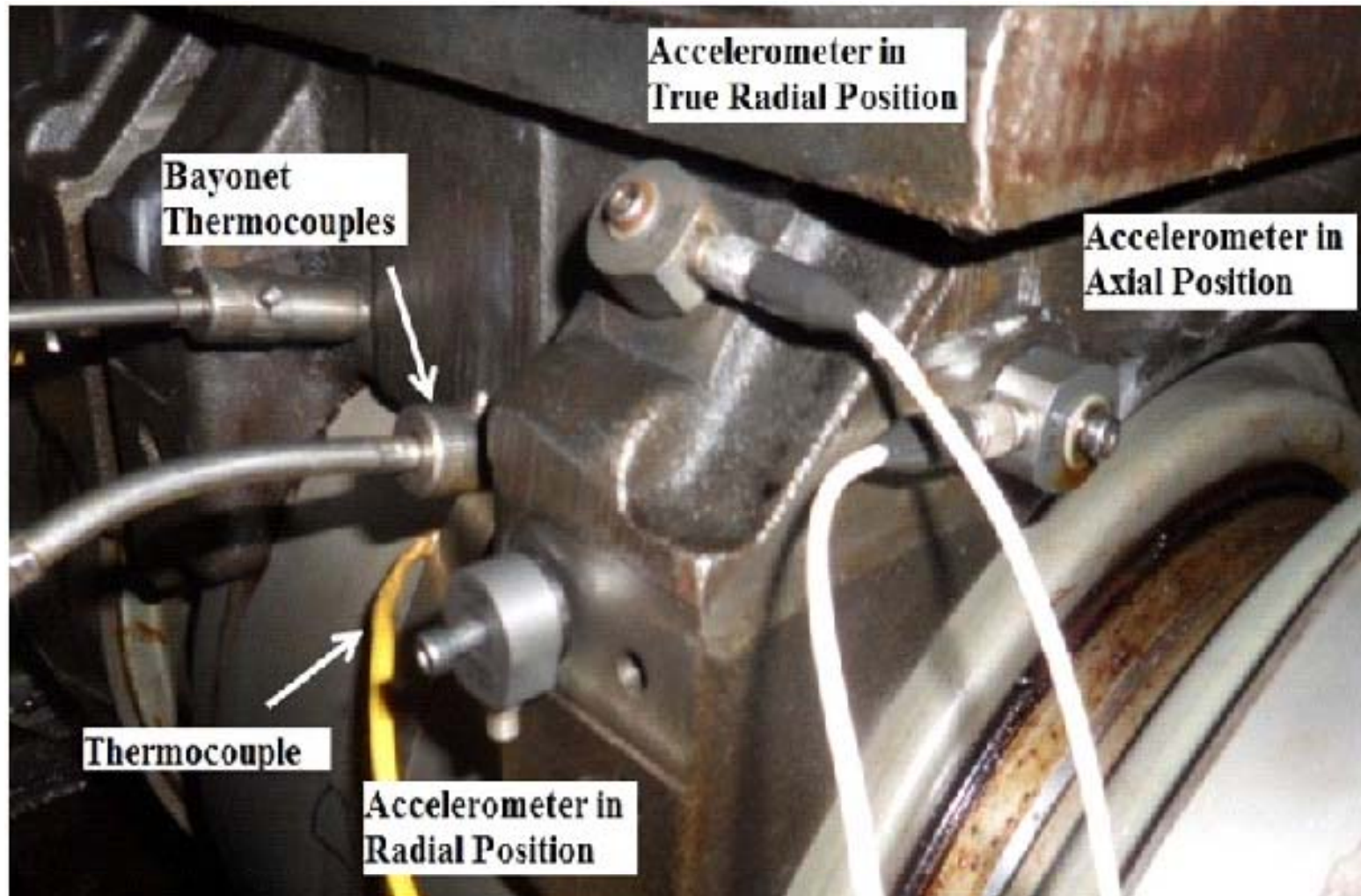




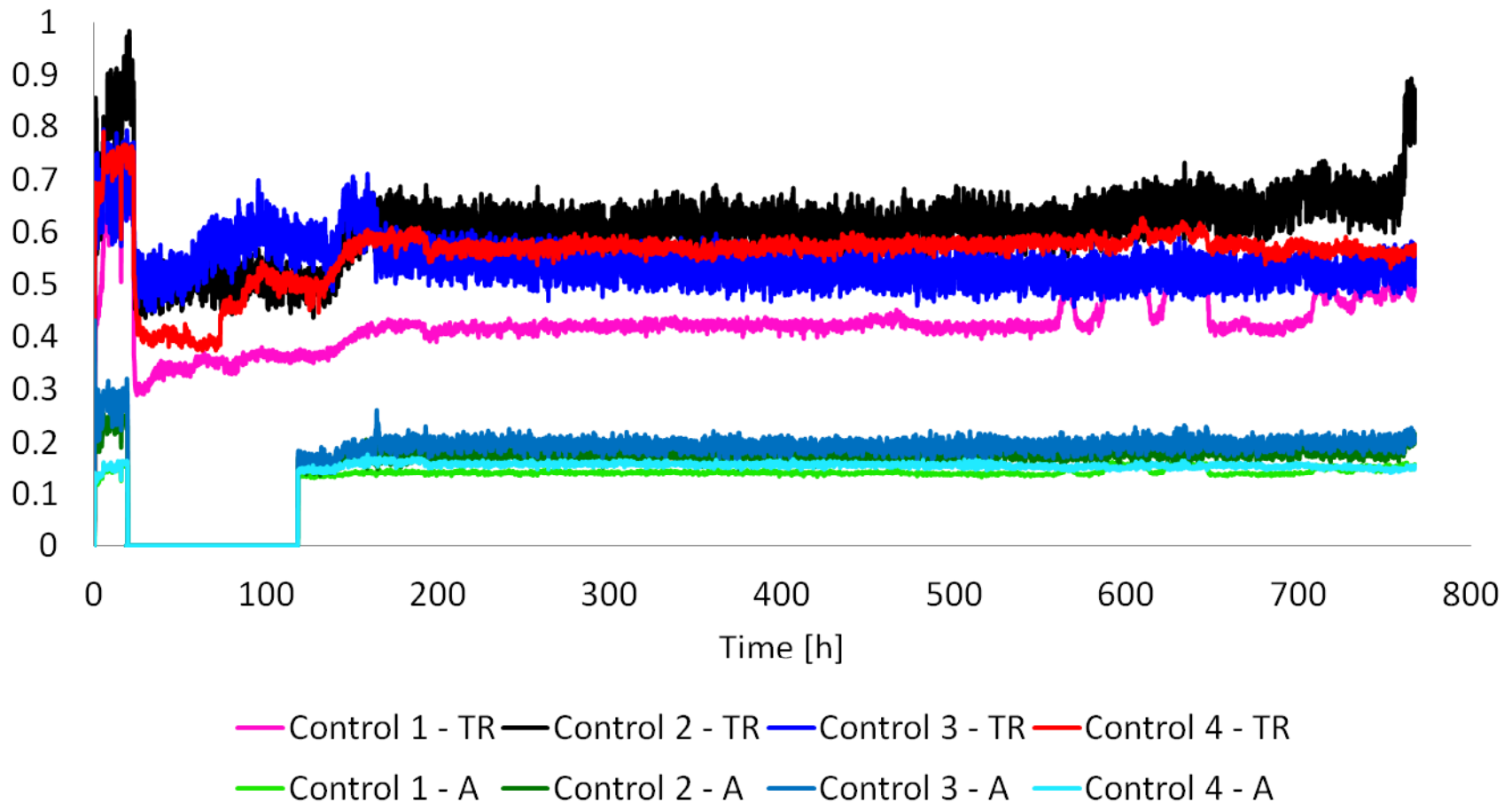
Max length: 1.047 in  
Max width: 0.224 in  
Area: 0.235 in<sup>2</sup>



# Bearing Condition Monitoring



# Bearing Condition Monitoring



# Bearing Condition Monitoring

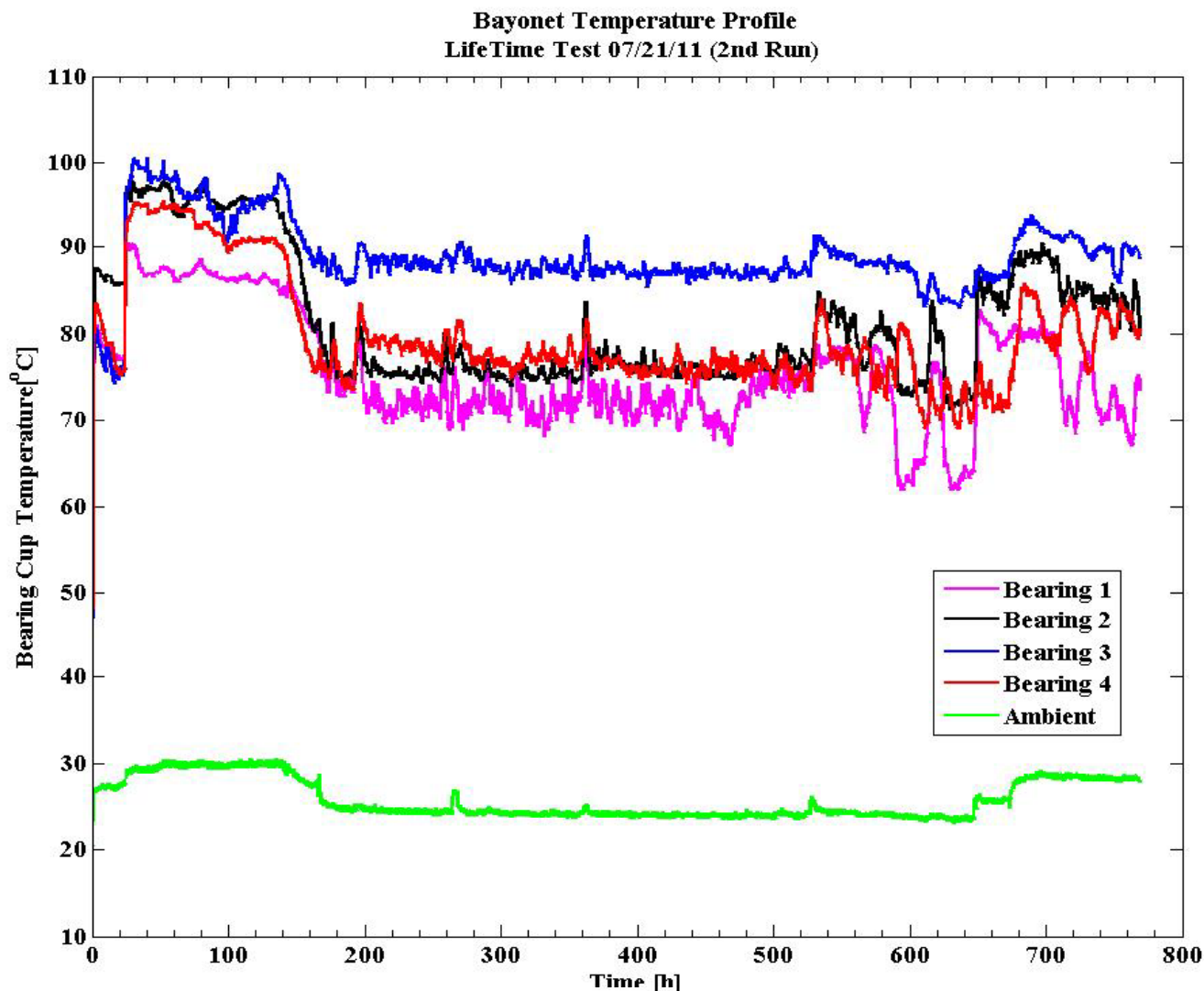


Max length: 1.850 in  
Max width: 0.707 in  
Area: 1.308 in<sup>2</sup>

**Deterioration after 37,400 miles!!!**

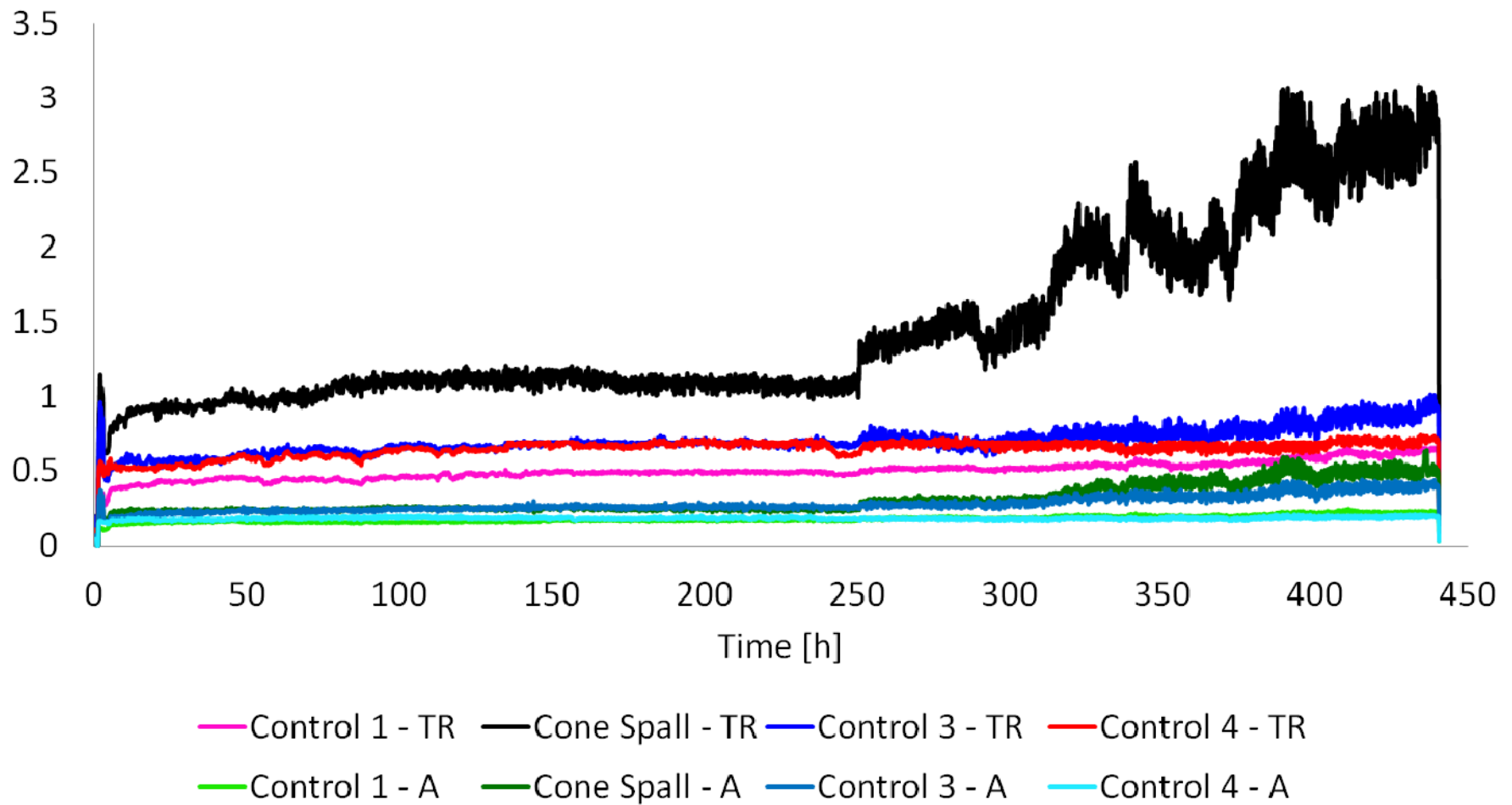


# Bearing Condition Monitoring





# Bearing Condition Monitoring



# Wheel Impact Load Detectors

- “WILD” systems used by all major railroads to detect high impact wheels in service
- Dedicated detector sites - Strain gauged rails to detect wheel load
- 90,000 pounds is current condemnable wheel load
- For a 36” wheel, 562 impacts per mile
- Wheel impacts increase stress state of the railroad
- AAR Why Made Code 75 – “shelling”
- AAR Why Made Code 65 – high impact wheel,  $\geq 90$  kips
- Impact data for 294 tank cars, built in 2004 with truck mounted brakes: 139 wheels on B end truck has wheel impact loads consistent with a damaged wheel while only 7 wheels on the A end had had elevated load levels !
- Thus 95% of high impact wheels were on the only truck affected by the hand brake!

# Wheel Condition Monitoring

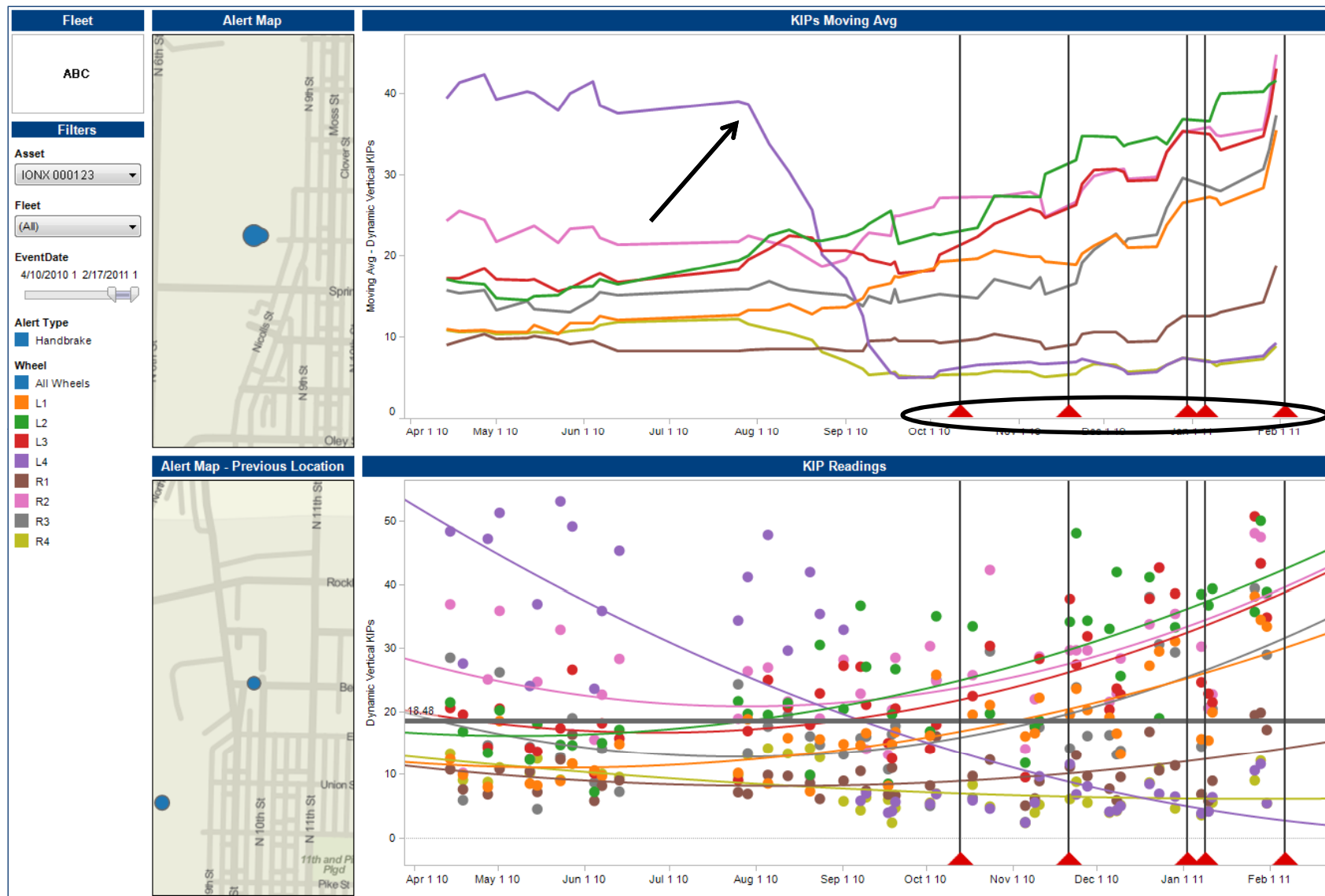


Hand brake sensor



CMU mounted on a  
railcar







# Wheel Impacts and Wheel Failures

- High impact wheels can cause bearing damage such as broken cages, leading to failure
- Other car component damage and rail fractures
- High impact, dynamic high strain rate loads can play a role in shattered rim formation and in vertical split rim formation
- Axial residual stress pattern is different for VSR and used wheels - tensile axial residual stress magnitude is greater below the tread surface of these wheels than for new wheels

# Conclusions

- Railroads/car owners/suppliers can all benefit from condition based maintenance strategies
- On-board sensors can determine predictively when components are degrading through performance algorithms.
- Operational delays and damage costs can be avoided or minimized through predictive maintenance strategies
- The full life of rolling stock components can be realized, which encourages product development to increase performance.
- Modification of behaviors of railroad employees, shippers and consignees could occur through education, enforcement of rules and financial penalties

