

Generator bearings: a tailor-made solution helps break the ice



The problem

A coastguard was experiencing problems with the sleeve bearings of the generators on board its icebreakers:

- Shorter than expected operational life
- Routine maintenance taking too much time and effort (partly owing to restricted access)
- Generic problems associated with the need for oil lubrication
- Long lead times in the supply of spare bearings by the manufacturers

The solution

A solution was desired that would not require alteration of the generator itself. The new bearing would have to be a

direct, 'drop in' replacement. Since the icebreakers have heavy work schedules, downtime must be kept to a minimum. The SKF Cooper solution provided:

- A high quality standard split roller bearing
- A special cartridge and end-cover
- A standard pedestal
- A custom-built support plinth, elevating pedestal, cartridge and bearing to provide dimensionally identical support for the shaft

The advantages (over sleeve bearings)

- A fast, 'drop-in' replacement, viable for years to come
- Easy-access inspection and maintenance
- No oil lubrication system needed (no pumps or filters, and no oil leaks)
- Bearing runs cooler and consumes less power
- No risk of damage to shaft from bearing failure



The right combination of standard and made-to-order equipment

SKF Cooper puts at your service both a standardized, internationally-recognized range of bearings and a factory full of world-class craftsmen, skilled at fabricating made-to-order bearings and support structures. It's a winning combination that will give you the right solution every time, no matter how simple or complex your need.

For more information, visit our website www.cooperbearings.com

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