

Excellent Long-Term Protection from Castrol Wind Turbine Gear Oils

WIND ENERGY (CANADA)

Wind Turbine Gearboxes

Castrol Optigear® Synthetic X 320

Long-Term Success with Optigear Synthetic Oils



THE SITUATION

A wind farm was approaching the recommended oil change cycle on their turbine gearboxes. This farm utilized 66 GE 1.5 MW turbines which were factory filled with Castrol Optigear Synthetic A 320 gear oil.

The customer sought the best available oil and needed strong support for the change-over.

THE CHALLENGE

- Utilize the best wind turbine gear oil on the market in terms of gear protection and oil life
- Deliver the support needed to ensure the gearboxes were properly converted

THE RESULTS

- Castrol Optigear Synthetic X 320 was chosen as the wind turbine gear oil
- Castrol provided change-over procedures and on-site support during the change

THE SOLUTION

- Since Castrol was recommended by the OEM for these gearboxes, the customer approached us for the latest technology gear oil available.
- Castrol had recently developed a new oil for the Wind Energy market called Optigear Synthetic X.
- This was our next generation wind turbine gear oil designed for both excellent gear protection and long oil life, to minimize maintenance costs and provide high reliability.
- Castrol delivered support during the change, leading to a successful conversion.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Proper conversion from one oil to another is critical to long-term success of the new oil. Castrol has worked with many farms to ensure the proper procedures are used by the service provider (contractor). We utilize best practice from these farms and minimize costs through the use of a low priced flushing fluid called Castrol Magna 320.

In addition at this farm, we recommended the use of our Techniclean SC 320 (formerly known as Detergen System Cleaner) which was added 1 week prior to change-out in order to remove any residues or varnish from the system.

CONCLUSION

Through the use of Castrol Optigear Synthetic fluids since commissioning, this farm has experienced excellent turbine gearbox reliability. They have had no documented failures related to the oil. They also have the confidence that they are using the best oil on the market, as supported by the turbine manufacturer.



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