



Tips, technology, and tools for next-generation machinery alignment

David Metz



Webinar Series



David Metz

Technical Sales Representative, PRUFTECHNIK Fluke Reliability

- Former machinist/millwright with more than 30 years of technical and craft experience with Exelon Energy
- Extensive background performing machinery alignment on rotating equipment from very small to the largest GE steam turbines and generators
- Proficient at vibration analysis, with category 2 certification from Mobius
- Represents PRUFTECHNIK for New York state in current sales role



About PRUFTECHNIK

WE KEEP YOUR WORLD ROTATING

A division of Fluke Reliability, PRUFTECHNIK is a leading maintenance technology manufacturer and solution provider.

Founded in 1972, PRUFTECHNIK grew from a family-owned business to a worldwide operating company and is now part of Fluke Reliability. It is present in 80 countries, with 20 subsidiaries and a large network of authorized sales and service partners. In July 2019, PRUFTECHNIK was acquired by the Fluke Corporation, a company of the Fortive group.

Trusted worldwide for the condition-based maintenance of rotating equipment and plant reliability.

We offer a broad range of high-quality products, services and training tailored to the needs of maintenance professionals in the areas of:



Alignment Systems

Shaft alignment and vibration analysis



Condition MonitoringVibration analysis and fault diagnosis



Nondestructive Testing

Quality assurance and process control



POLL QUESTION No. 1



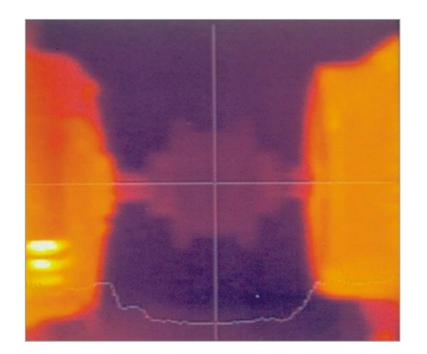
Are you currently using a laser shaft alignment system?

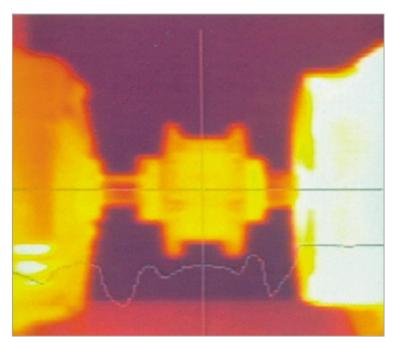
(Click only one answer)

- Yes, a current laser shaft alignment system
- An older laser shaft alignment system
- A dial indicator
- A straight edge or feeler gauge
- No system or tools for alignment



Coupling and shaft loading





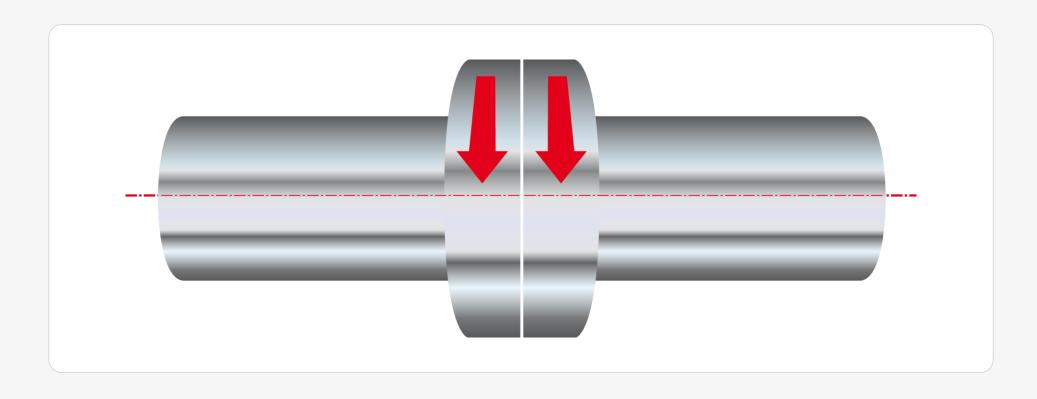
- When misaligned the loading of the shafts increases due to the reaction forces created within the coupling
- The flexible coupling elements heats up and the machine develops elevated temperatures particularly around the bearing housings



Definition of shaft alignment



What is shaft alignment?



"... at the point of power transfer from one shaft to another, the axes of rotation of both shafts should be colinear when the machine is running under normal operating conditions ..."



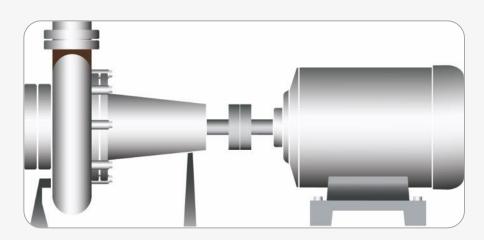
The 4 alignment parameters

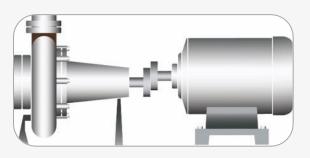


Vertical angularity

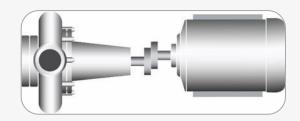


Horizontal angularity





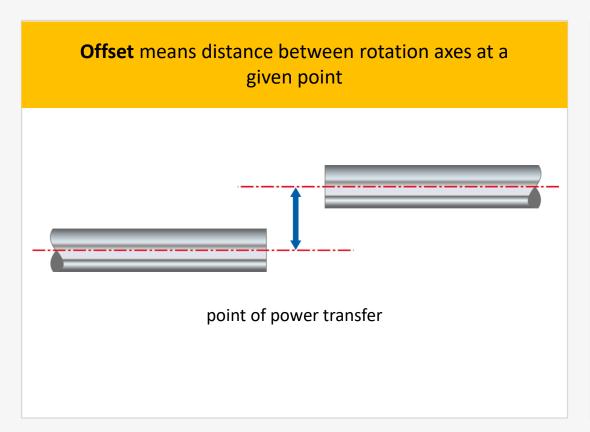
Vertical offset



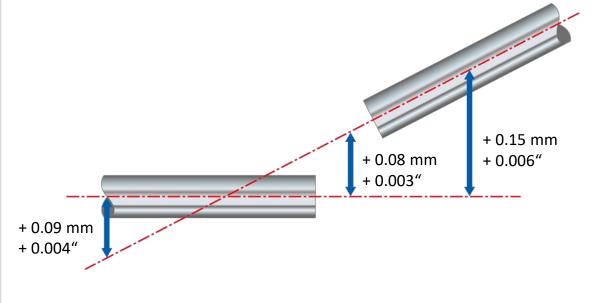
Horizontal offset



Offset

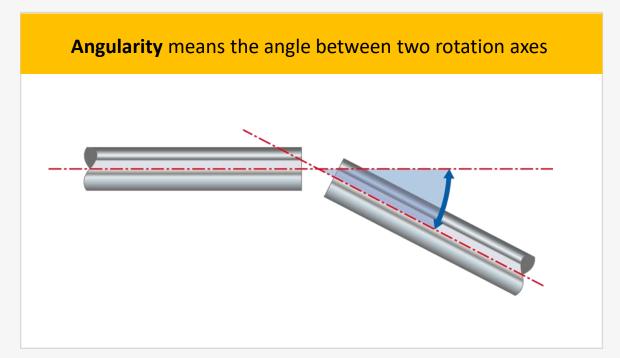


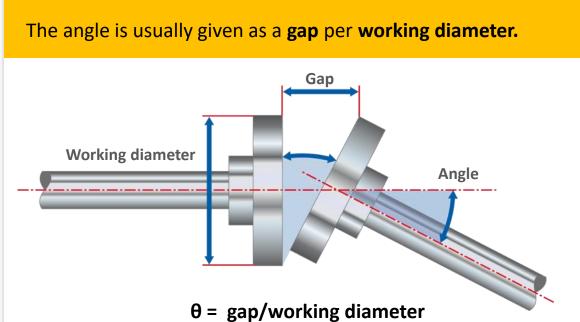
Offset value varies depending upon the location where the distance between two shaft rotation axes is measured





Angularity and gap (1)





A 6" (152.4 mm) coupling open at the top by 0.005" (0.127 mm) gives an angle between shaft axes of 0.83 mrads: $\theta = 0.127/152.4 = 8.33 \ 10^{-4} \ rad = 0.83 \ mm/m$

Note: 1 mrad = 1 thousandth of an inch per inch | 1 mrad = 1 mm / m



Some types of flexible couplings











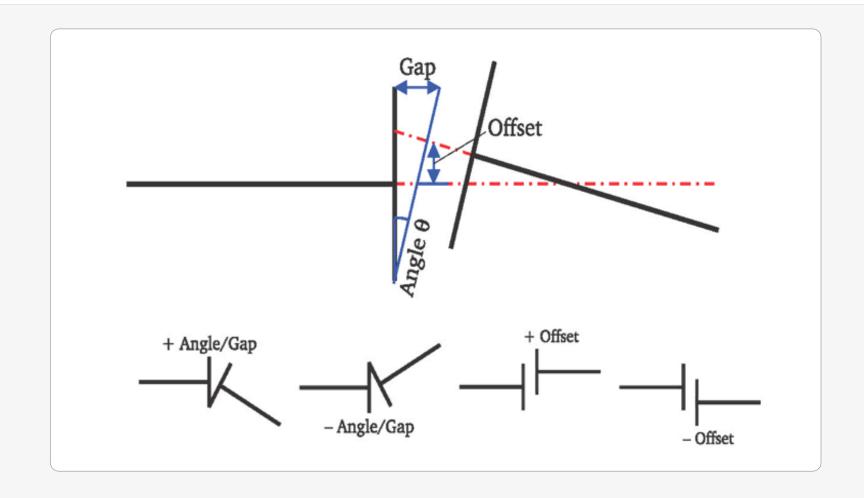






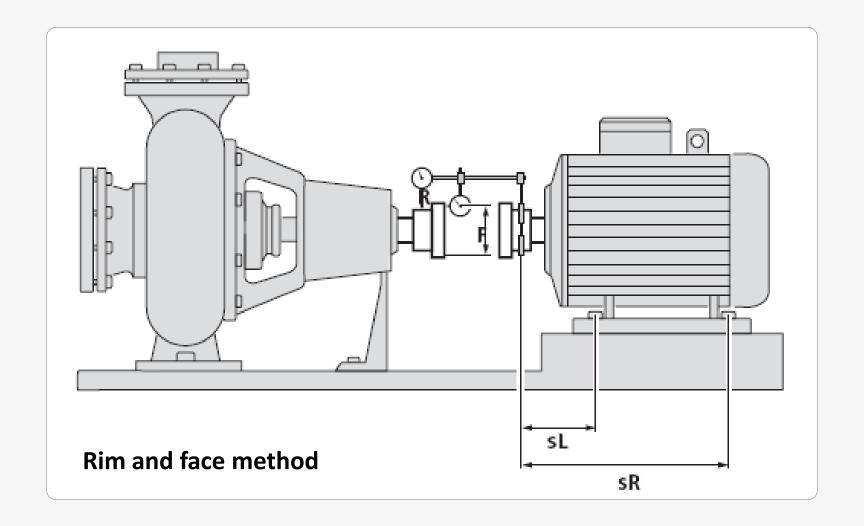


Short flexible couplings (3)



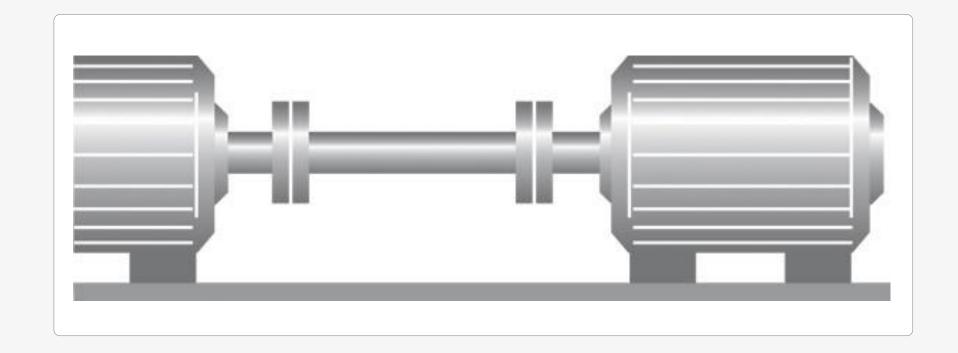


Shaft alignment methods: Dial indicators



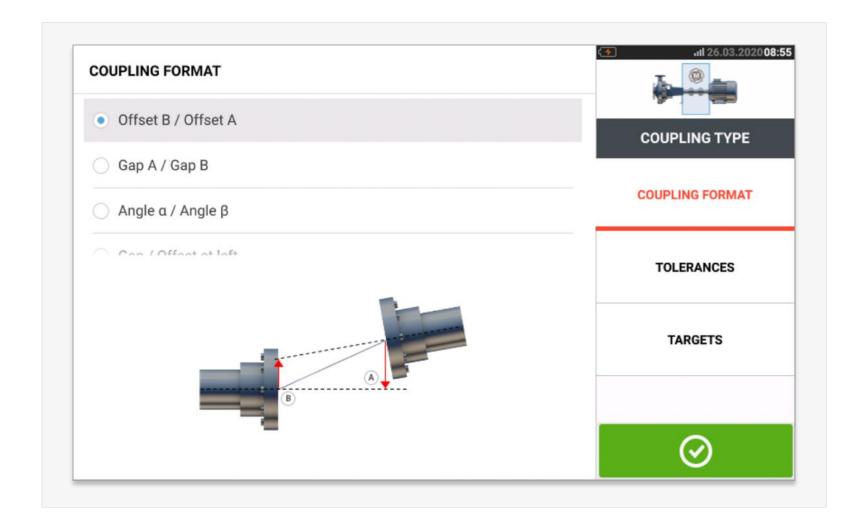


Spacer coupling type (1)



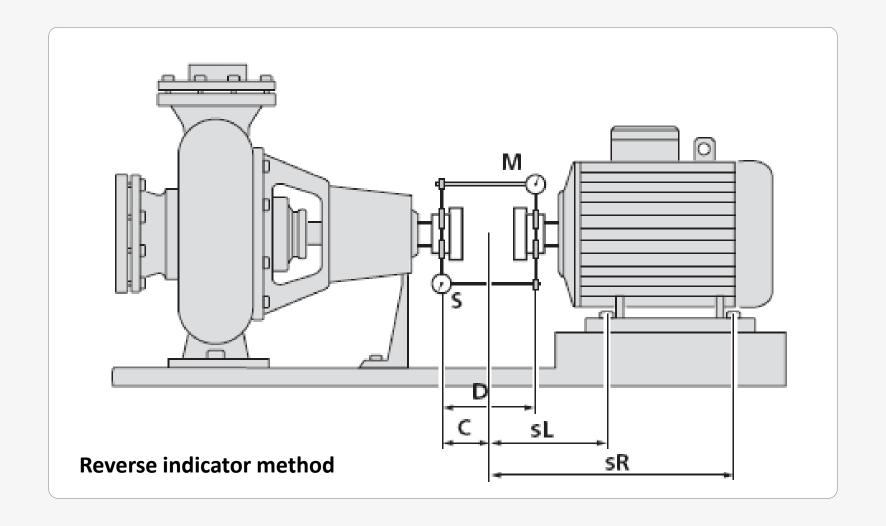


Spacer coupling type (1)



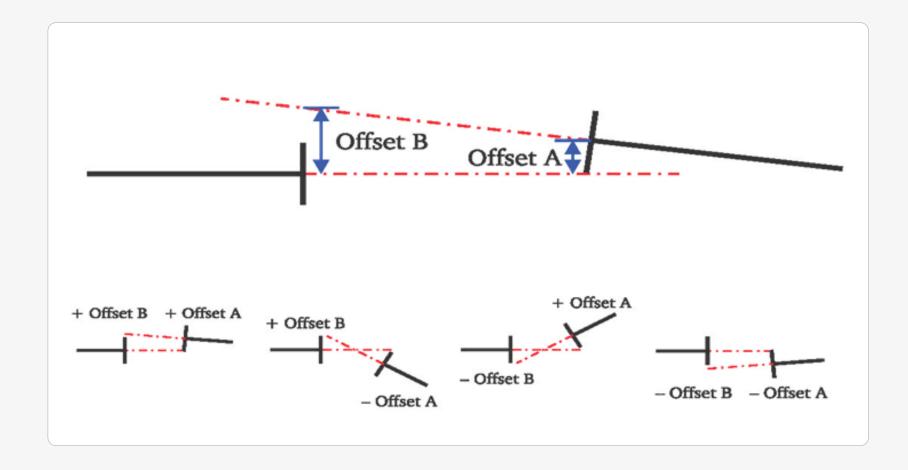


Shaft alignment methods: Dial indicators



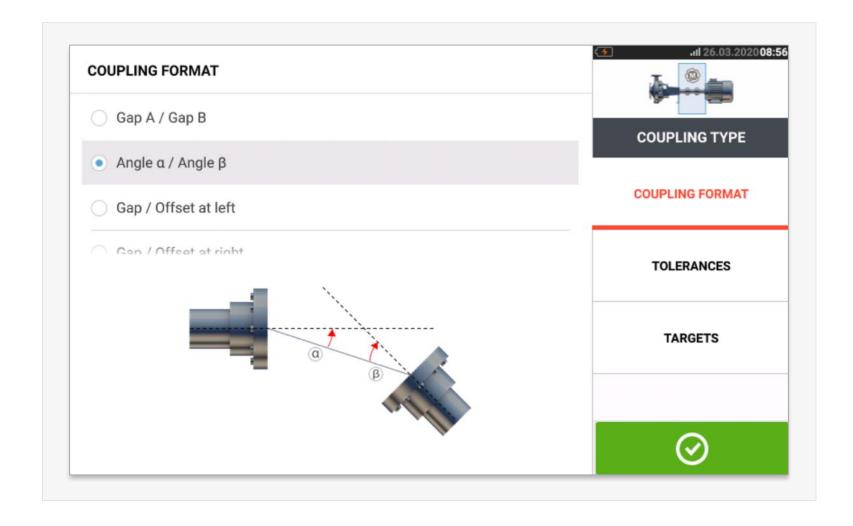


Spacer couplings (4)



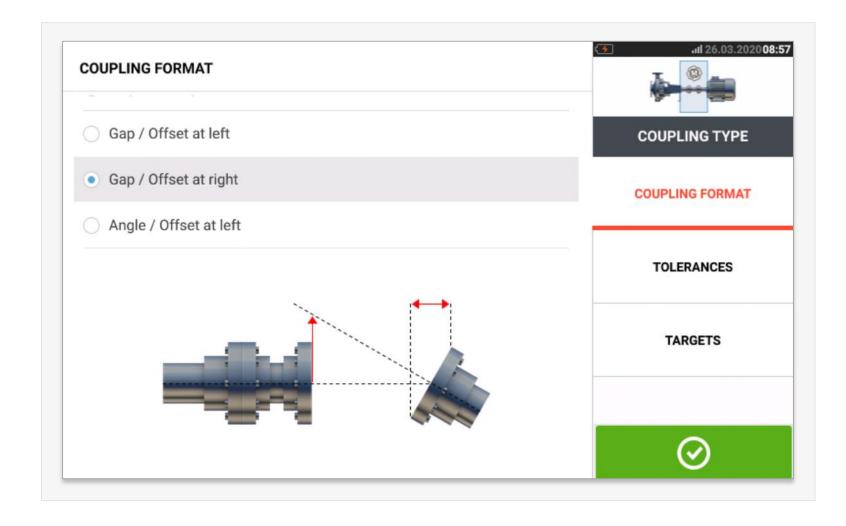


Shaft alignment methods: Dial indicators





Spacer couplings (4)





POLL QUESTION No. 2



How would describe your current alignment challenges?

(Click only one answer)

- Basic
- Somewhat complicated
- Incredibly challenging and complicated
- Unpredictable at this point



Pre-alignment checklist



Machine tagged out-Padlock on switchgear



Pipe/bracket strain eliminated?



Base OK?



Shafts OK?
Run out, bending bearing play?



Shims OK? (maximum 4 shims!)



Coupling OK?
Proper fit on shaft, looseness eccentricity, flexible elements OK?



Bent bolts Cupped washers?



Soft foot eliminated?



Hold-down bolts, Jacking bolts lubricated?



Targets, tolerances established?

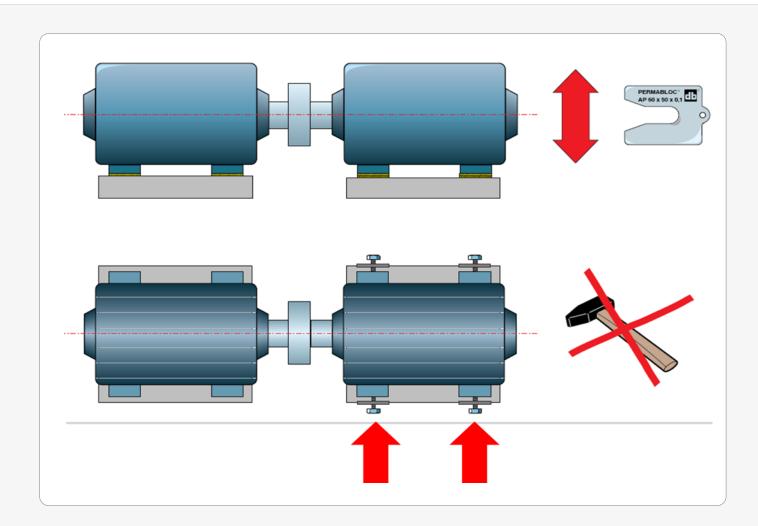






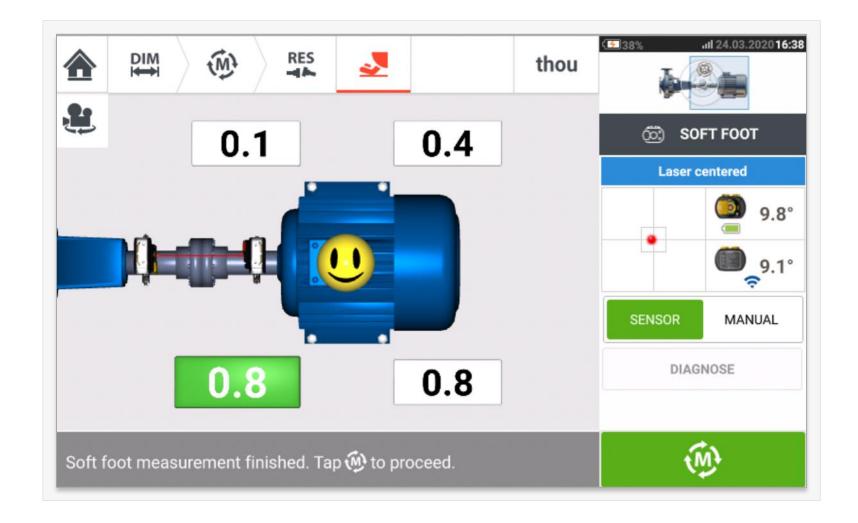
Machine corrections / Machine mobility

- Use pre-cut shims; maximum 4 shims (avoid spring effect!)
- Use jack bolts or machine puller. No hammer!

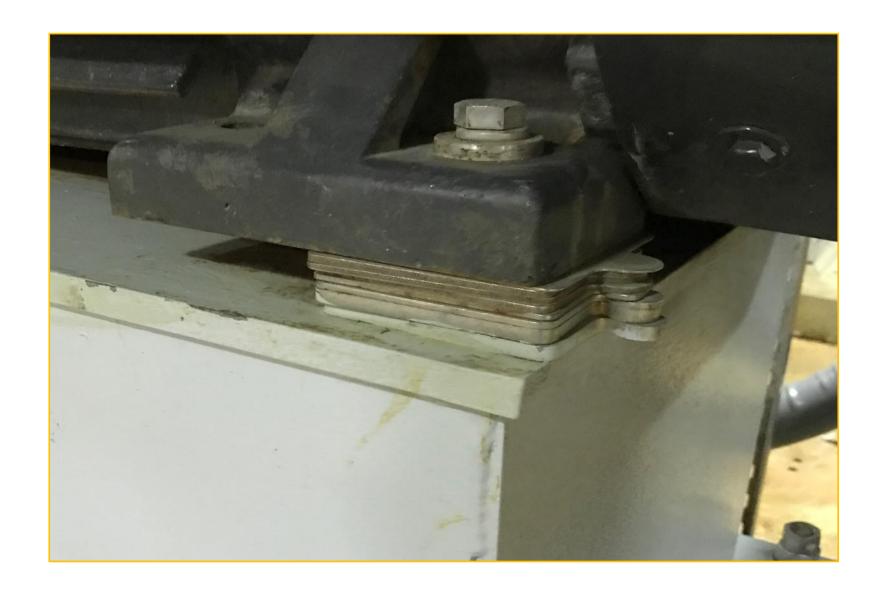




Soft foot





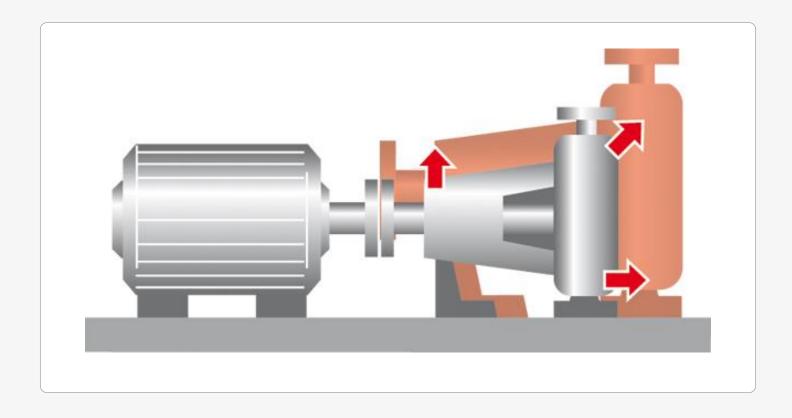








Thermal growth and target specifications

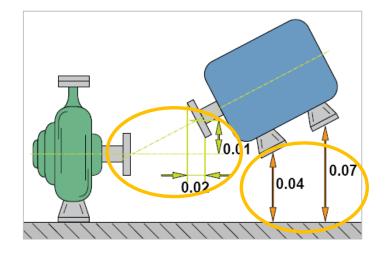


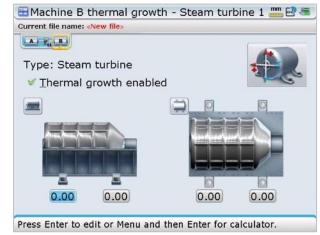
The specifications can be input to take into account the expected positional change of the machine during operation.



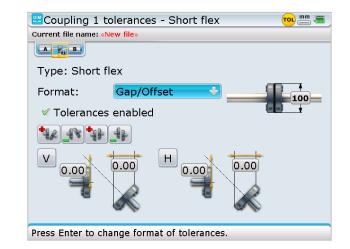
Thermal growth and target specifications

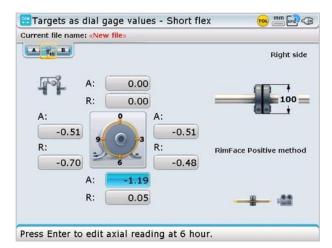
Thermal growth parameters – at machine feet





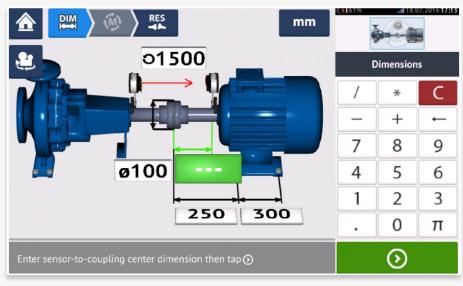
Target values – at coupling (as gap/offset or dial indicator readings)

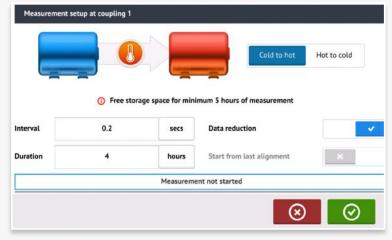


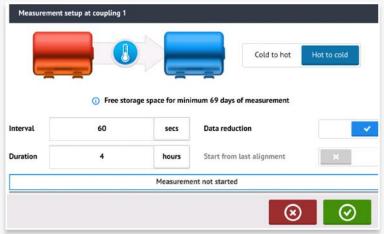




Live Trend









Live Trend





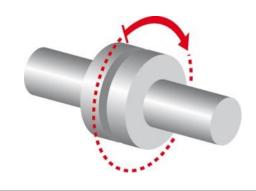
PRÜFTECHNIK laser shaft alignment modes

High-precision, adaptive alignment through unique and patented measurement modes



intelliSWEEP mode

- Continuous and automatic data collection
- Huge numbers of readings over the rotation
- Live Measurement Quality
- Spurious points are automatically considered inactive



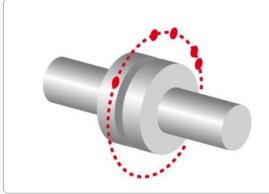
SWEEP mode

- Continuous and automatic data collection
- Huge numbers of readings over the rotation
- Starts at any position
- Rotation in any direction
- 60° SWEEP only to overcome rotation limitation



PRÜFTECHNIK laser shaft alignment modes

High-precision, adaptive alignment through unique and patented measurement modes



Multi-Point mode

- Measurement at any position
- Unlimited number of points
- Suitable for sleeve/journal bearing

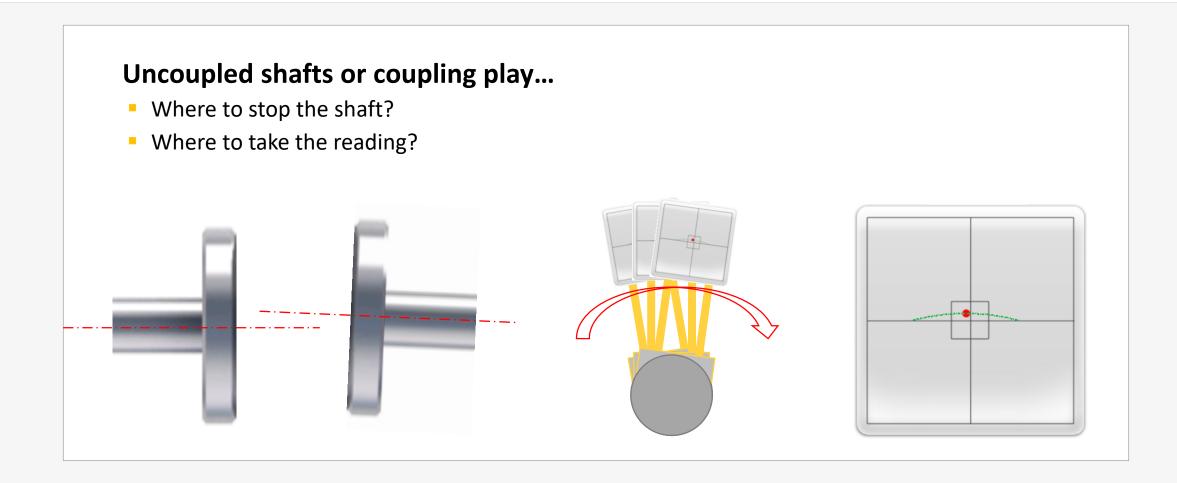


Pass Mode

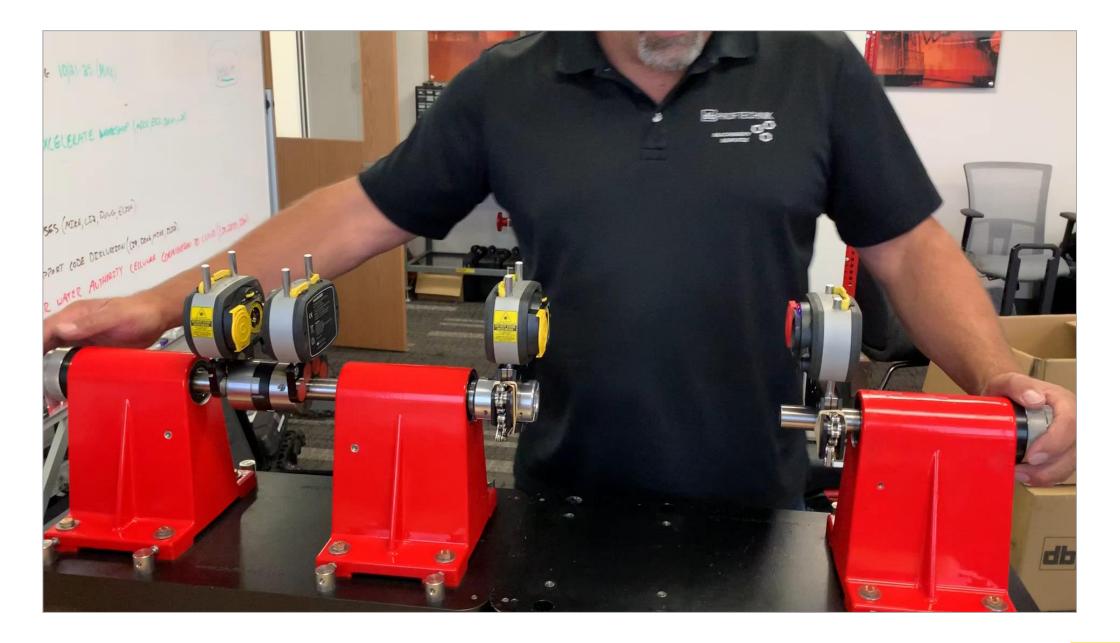
- The laser emitter is rotated past the receiver
- Ideal for uncoupled shafts



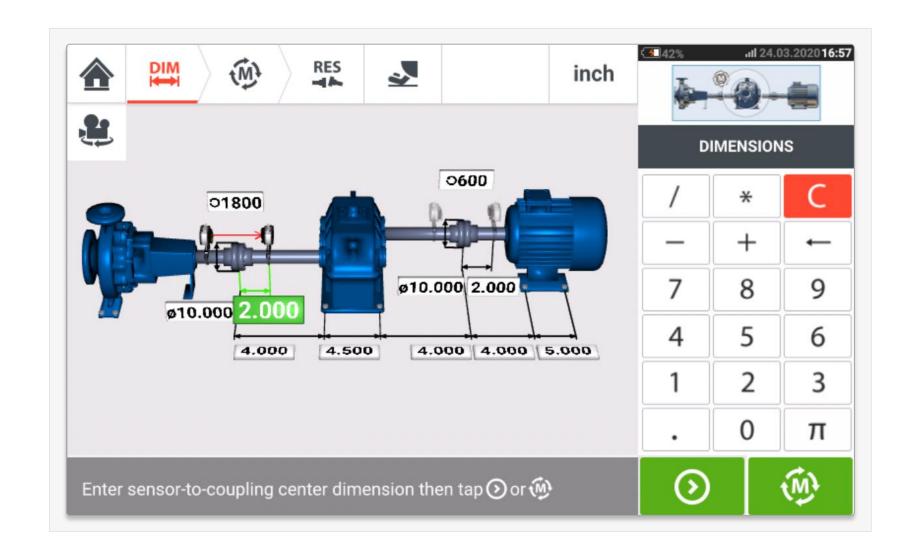
Uncoupled mode: intelliPOINT and intelliPASS













Questions

QUESTIONS?



Thank you!

David Metz

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Learn more about Adaptive Alignment

BEST PRACTICE WEBINAR

Wednesday, June 3, 11 a.m. ET

Adaptive alignment: the next generation in laser shaft alignment systems

What if laser alignment systems could automatically adapt to different assets, simple-to-complex alignment challenges, and any user's skills and experience?

In this webinar, Jonathan Gough, Fluke Reliability Product Manager for PRUFTECHNIK, explains what adaptive alignment means, how it can address the problems occurring with today's machines, and how it can work for your organization.





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Reliability

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