

## Recovery Boiler Fluid Coupling Retrofit

Weyerhaeuser North America

### Recovery Boiler FD and ID Fluid Couplings

Precise control of fan fluid couplings is critical to boiler performance, and structural integrity. This pulp mill performed an evaluation of their Recovery Boiler FD & ID fan application to determine the cause of cyclical speed fluctuations. They found that deadband induced limit cycling in the conventional electric actuator used to control the fluid coupling was causing unwanted fan speed changes. The air flow variations were causing damage to the fan/damper plenum. The fluid coupling manufacturer recommended replacing the original actuators with Beck.

#### Initial Results

Beck model 11-159 actuators were installed in a direct-couple arrangement to replace the old actuators with minimal modifications.

Dramatic improvements in fan speed control were immediately apparent. Plant personnel compared before and after trend data, and found a 90% reduction in speed variability. A comparison of their 8-day “Before” trend and 14-day “After” trend confirms a strong correlation between the actuator replacement and improved control.

#### Long Term Satisfaction

The actuators have been in service since 2003 with no maintenance required. This fluid coupling project was closely monitored by the plant and corporate engineers. Not only were Beck actuators specified for a new recover boiler at the mill – Beck became the standard actuator for fluid couplings and dampers corporate-wide.

*Electric utilities and independent power producers have come to depend on Beck for accurate, reliable positioning of their most important applications.*

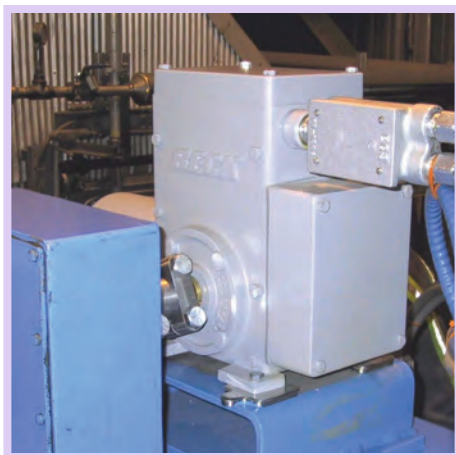


Figure 1 & 2

As a result of the plant's success, Beck actuators became the standard on fluid couplings.

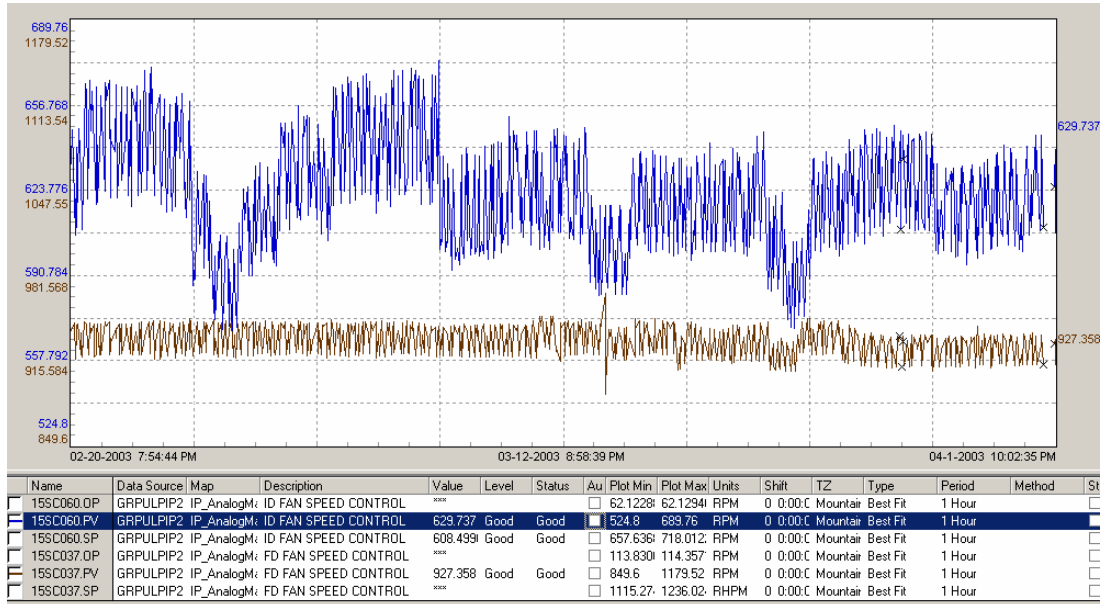


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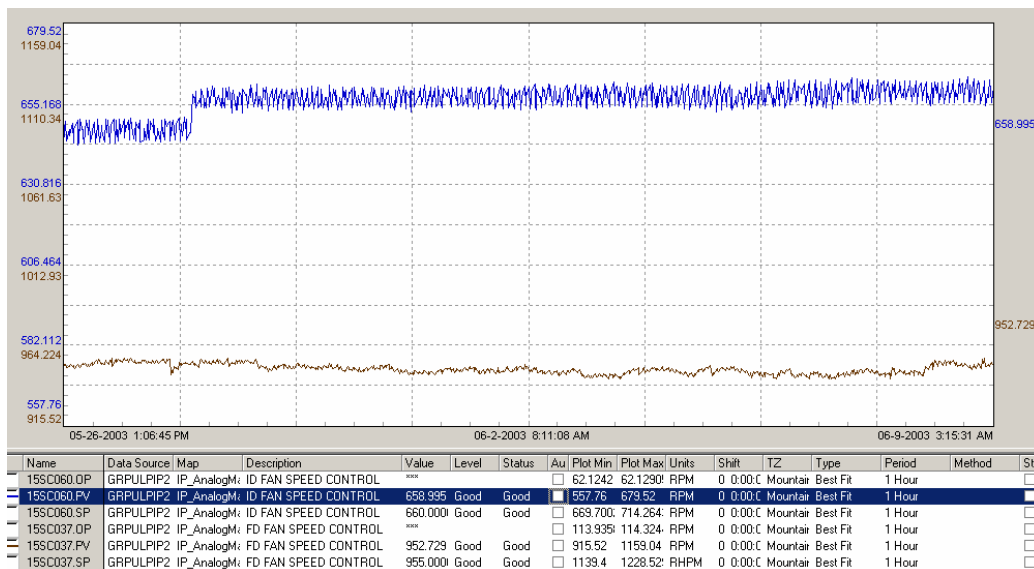
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The ID fan and FD fan speed control data

Before change of actuator:



After change of actuator:



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