

# TECHNICAL UPDATE # 001

## “FIRST UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM”

Here at Thompson Couplings we strive to design and deliver to you the best available product for your particular driveline requirements.

We don't just sell the standard off-the-shelf coupling BUT will work with you (if needed) as the end user to understand the problems with your current situation and deliver a technical solution.

Based on our many years' experience in driveline and machinery systems we understand that often it may not be obvious the cause of a systems vibration or noise or poor life etc. From lessons learned it is not wise to dive in and think it must be the coupling that is the culprit all to find the problem may still be there after the coupling has been replaced.

Instead take a look at the entire driveline and connected machinery and using some simple tools try and pinpoint where the originator maybe. In future articles I will elaborate more but simple checks such as:

- Worn pump bearings will give signs of vibration even though the couplings maybe fine
- Sloppy Vee belts or poor tension will give false readings in vibration
- Loose motor mounts or pump supports will likewise give high vibration readings and make alignment impossible when using other specific types of couplings.
- Etc.

The simple tools I mention include your sight, sounds and feel to safely identify possible sources of trouble first before bringing in the technical equipment. Use a screwdriver to your ear to listen to worn bearings, feel with your hand indications of hot spots in the shaft couplings or other components.

REMEMBER though safety first when you are close to rotating machinery!

Next time we'll discuss case histories to show how this all can be applied.