

CYCLE OF PERSONAL OWNERSHIP

AUGUST 2021 WINNERS



CHELAN COUNTY

TRENT GRIGSBY

As the Mid-Columbia Coordination agreements came to an end in late 2019, the District developed independent methods to ensure it continued to meet power needs while adhering to all hydro-project operating constraints and Balancing Authority reliability obligations.

Trent Grigsby identified and lead an initiative to enhance the existing “Extended Automatic Generation Control” (ExtAGC) program, enabling it to function as a backup for the District’s primary AGC optimization tool, RTVista. River Operators highly value the flexibility of using the ExtAGC backup mode solution to influence generation dispatch while still leveraging the benefits of automation.

Trent continues to commit his time to continuous improvement efforts such as a new control display that allows River Operators to tune settings and influence how generation is allocated between the Rocky Reach and Rocky Island Hydro Plants while still honoring participant requests and hard constraints. Additionally, Trent implemented a new visualization and optimization tuning interface that enables Operators to see how tuning will influence generation at RI and RR prior to significant plant demand shifts. This continued engagement has resulted in increased dependency and trust in ExtAGC backup mode. One Operator recently shared, “I’m hearing a lot of relief from the guys down here in System Operations, this tool has really improved our ability to manage the river. Big thanks to you Trent!!! We really appreciate it!”. Trent’s work with Operations to improve this tool is an example of true teamwork, commitment, and ownership.

PAT EAKLE

Pat Eakle observed three stator soleplate keys that were migrated inward, pushing through their keeper plates. The stator keys are lubricated to keep them from sticking and the theory is through years of operations, and repeated thermal cycles, the lubrication has dried out and the keys have become sticky.

This finding is above and beyond any inspections required by CM Mechanics and is not a part of the disassembly and reassemble ITP but with Pat's past experience and his commitment to Operation Excellence his finding helped prevent future unplanned outages. This finding helped uncover a preventative maintenance that has been overlooked but will now be added to all future small units. To add to his commitment, not only did Pat find the mitigated keys but acted as the lead on performing all repairs and working with EPM to ensure all keys were inspected, lubricated, and machined in a safe and timely matter. Pat has been an outstanding leader and mentor to many CM Hydro Mechanic Apprentices during the C-Unit Rehabilitation. Thank you, Pat, for your dedication to Operational Excellence.