

Dear Readers,

I remember the first issue of Transformer Technology: Oils & Fluids and how we were amazed at how quickly we were able to curate the content that was the correct combination of quality and quantity. For this issue, we have been overwhelmed with both the quality, but also the quantity of articles and interviews, so much so that we are splitting Oils & Fluids into two parts, with this issue being Part 1 and in January we will publish Part 2.

As we develop our Body of Knowledge (BoK) for the TT Community, we look for several things for Oils & Fluids: a variety of technical content about the different types of fluids, whether it is mineral or vegetable, application information about how these fluids are being used, and comparative information between different types of fluids. We add in an interview that was transcribed from a video-cast we did with interesting and informative subject matter experts, all in the hopes that we inform, educate and inspire. We expect you will find that both this December issue and the future January issue will do just that.

Over the past decade, I have watched as natural and synthetic esters were changing the industry. Their unique qualities and chemistry have a growing list of applications that make for a changing landscape. But, not to be left behind, mineral oil technology is also changing to adapt to unique applications as well. What does all this change mean to the transformer fluid testing world? The way we extract condition information must change, and the way we gather and evaluate the data from that testing is changing as well. Change! I love that word.

While technology is changing rapidly to a digitalized world, you would think that the chemistry of oils and fluids would not change, but as they do, to adapt to new applications, one thing is certain: data collection and machine learning must keep up. Over time we will be gathering tremendous amounts of testing data that will determine the condition and thus, the life cycle of these critical assets. Making the right decision of which fluid to use will depend on the specific requirements of the transformer, and here is where I get most excited. Since all reliability of an asset and thus of a system in which the asset is deployed begins at design, the specification of the fluid must also begin at the design stage.

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At Transformer Technology we are committed to give you, our community, actionable information that can help you make key decisions for all stages of the life cycle of transformers; from design, to manufacturing, to installation, to testing and finally to maintaining and disposal. With this issue focusing on Oils & Fluids and with the upcoming January 2022 Part 2 issue, we believe we are bringing insight that educates, informs and inspires. Enjoy!

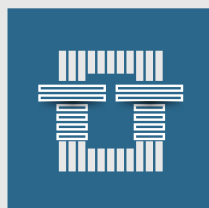
Finally, our February issue of Transformer Technology is themed, Transformers: The Heart of the Generation, Transmission and Distribution System. We will also preview the upcoming IEEE PES Conference and Exhibition coming in April in New Orleans.

If you, or someone from your organization wishes to contribute to the February issue and add your voice to our BoK, please contact me at:

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