



Wind Power Technology Services

The Mechanical Engineering Division of Southwest Research Institute® (SwRI®) has been involved in the design, analysis, testing and problem resolution of energy industry machinery for more than 50 years. With this background, Institute staff have developed expertise in machinery dynamics, thermal and fluid systems, and aerodynamic performance. SwRI engineers regularly apply this expertise using both commercially available and custom-engineered tools such as finite element analysis (FEA) and computational fluid dynamics (CFD) codes, as well as field and laboratory-based data acquisition tools and instrumentation.

Because the Institute is an independent organization, SwRI is uniquely positioned to provide third-party design audits, due diligence studies, prototype development and testing, and failure analysis. Our technical depth and breadth can be a valuable asset to smaller organizations that cannot afford the technical staff required for prototype development, and to larger organizations that cannot meet their engineering requirements with existing staff.

SwRI is particularly suited to contribute to the wind power industry, providing a variety of services for manufacturers, owners and entrepreneurs.

Prototype Design and Testing

- Prototype development from concept to actual hardware
- Instrumentation development and integration
- Design analysis (FEA, CFD, etc.)
- Test planning, operation and reporting
- Wind tunnel testing of prototype (up to 4 m diameter))

Torsional Vibration Analysis

- Drivetrain modal analysis
- Forced response analysis
- Transient shock event analysis
- Wind spectrum analysis

Field Vibration Troubleshooting

- Drivetrain vibration
- · Bearing failures
- Gearbox failures
- Strain measurement telemetry

Bearing and Gearbox Failure Analysis

- Metallurgical examination for failure mode
- Root cause failure analysis (RCFA)



SwRI engineers have performed torsional dynamic analysis of utility-scale wind turbine

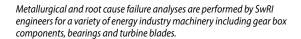
drive trains including the main input shaft,

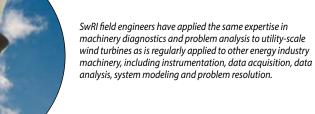
analysis is important for avoiding resonant conditions throughout the entire speed range.

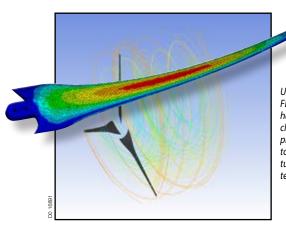
Gearbox

gearbox and generator components. Torsional

Generator







Using CAD, CFD and FEA, SwRI engineers have developed client concepts into a prototype reality, up to and including wind tunnel performance testing.



SwRI engineers make adjustments to instrumentation installed on a prototype wind turbine assembly. The turbine has instrumentation to measure blade strain and generator power as well as flow visualization features for testing in a full-scale wind tunnel facility.

We welcome your inquiries.

For more information, please contact:

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