Hydroelectric Generator Vibrations
Hydroelectric generators consist of many components that can loosen and eventually fail:
- Stator frame assembly
- Stator core assembly
- Generator end windings and supports
- Generator windings or bars in their slots

The loosening is primarily caused by oscillating electric and magnetic field forces in the generator, and results in vibrations at frequencies related to electric power generation rather than rotor speed.

Sensing Methodologies
1. Stator Frame and Core Vibration – An accelerometer or Velomitor* sensor is attached to the stator core and/or frame to measure vibrations.
2. End Winding Vibration – An accelerometer is attached to the stator end winding to measure vibration in the radial and tangential directions.
3. Stator Bar Vibration – A capacitive displacement sensor (by others) is mounted to measure the movement of the winding within a stator slot.

Line Frequency Modifications
GE Bently Nevada offers modifications that replace the rotor-related measurements in certain 3500/46M Hydro Monitor channels with 2X line frequency and pole passing frequency measurements. These Multimode Dynamic Generator Monitoring (MM DGM) modifications are installed and enabled via 3500 Configuration software. The variables can be viewed in 3500 operator displays and/or sent to a control system or System 1* software for trending.

For more information: contact your local Bently Nevada Representative.