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**DATE:** 02.05.2025

# TECHNOLOGY- ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS FOR EQUIPMENT FAILURES

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# Phase 4: Performance of the project

**Title: Root Cause Analysis for Equipment Failures** 

## **Objective**:

To stay ahead of equipment failures, we're focusing on making our diagnostic models smarter so they can spot issues more accurately. We're also boosting the system's performance so it can easily handle more data as more equipment comes online. At the same time, we're speeding up how quickly failures are reported and fixed, making sure everything runs smoothly. Better integration with sensors will keep the data flowing reliably, while strong security measures will protect that data and keep us compliant. And as we grow, we're making sure the system can easily scale across more sites and equipment without a hitch.

## 1. Failure data collection streamlining

#### **Overview:**

The failure data collection system will be improved on from feedback from previous phases. We want to improve the quality of data accuracy through a comprehensive and automation approach to real-time equipment health data collection using IoT sensors.

#### **Performance Enhancements:**

**Data Completeness:** Use IoT sensors to compliment manual recordings of temperature, vibration and load in real-time, and will identify and capture a significantly larger quantity of the parameters.

**Automated Tagging:** Employ ML models to auto-tag failure events (e.g., "bearing wear" v. "lubrication failure") through electronic sensor classified patterns on failed and non-failed assets.

#### **Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of Phase 4, the system will capture and reduce missing/incomplete failure data from any asset by 70% and auto-tag 90% of failure events correctly.

# 2. Improvement of Failure Classification Algorithms

#### **Overview:**

The RCA (Root Cause Analysis) classification engine is improved to be faster and has more accurate diagnostics when evaluating complex equipment data.

This stage focused on improving an algorithm and accelerating the system performance for near real-time root cause analysis.

## **Key Enhancements:**

# **Improved Algorithms:**

The team retrained machine learning models on a larger data set to improve the system's ability to classify less frequent (rare) failure modes such as corrosion under insulation.

# **Improved performance:**

Computing architecture was improved using parallel processing to reduce lag from 5 seconds to less than 1 second for an analysis.

#### **Outcomes:**

Root-cause diagnosis is now 5x faster, with near real-time fault classification.

Diagnostic accuracy now improved to 95%, (previously 82%), therefore reducing misclassifications as seen with example cases of misalignment were previously classified as imbalance.

## 3. IoT Sensor Integration Performance

#### Overview:

In this step, real-time data was streamed from IoT sensors, such as vibration analyzers and thermal imaging, that had undergone streamlining to enable more proactive root cause analysis (RCA).

With the integration, abnormal conditions can be identified earlier and diagnostic workflows can be initiated more quickly.

## **Key Enhancements:**

#### **Real-Time notifications:**

Dynamic thresholds can be set to trigger RCA workflows once critical limits are exceeded (e.g. bearing temperature greater than 85C). This allows for early detection of faults before critical levels are hit.

# **API Optimization:**

Latency to the system was reduced by optimizing connections to OEM-specific APIs (e.g. to Siemens and Rockwell) which return sensor data faster and more reliably than sanitizer systems that serve many assets of equipment.

#### **Outcomes:**

Mean Time (MTTD) to Diagnosis was decreased by 60%, enabling much faster fault isolation and action.

80% of the failure events raise early warning alerts, with notifications providing a course of action, prior to requiring catastrophic damage to equipment.

# 4. Performance in Data Security and Compliance

#### **Overview:**

As the RCA system will be rolled out across many plants, security features have been improved to ensure that sensitive data is protected, and compliance is met.

### **Key Enhancements:**

## **Role-Based Encryption:**

Restricts data access by plant and by user role (i.e., Plant A team cannot see records that belong to Plant B).

#### **Audit Trails:**

Records all access to the RCA system to meet ISO 55000 and industrial audit standards.

#### **Outcome:**

There were 0 data breaches, even though the user population multiplied by 3 Full compliance maintained with industrial data protection legislation

## **5.Performance Testing and Metrics Gathering**

#### Overview:

The objective will be to stress-test the RCA system during all kinds of high-volume failure scenarios, such as when a refinery is forced to shut down, and to collect certain metrics to confirm reliability and accuracy.

## **Implementation:**

**Load Testing:** Simulate 500+ RCA requests concurrently - from sites across the globe.

**Accuracy Audits**: Check the diagnoses made by the system against reports written by human author experts to confirm validity.

#### **Results:**

The system will appropriately complete 99% of failure analyses without time lapse and possess less than 5% divergence from human expert conclusions, resulting in both speed and accuracy under field conditions.

# **Key Challenges in Phase 4:**

## 1. Scaling up for High-Volume Failures

**Problem:** Diagnosing 100+ failures in an hour when the plant is down.

**Solution:** Use distributed computing to parallelize RCA workflows to speed up processing and analysis at scale.

#### 2.OEM Data Silos

**Problem:** Incompatible data formats from multiple equipment manufacturers.

**Solution:** Use ISA-95 industrial data templates to standardize data integration and develop standard APIs to ensure interoperabilty.

#### 3. False Positives in Predictive RCA

**Problem:** Too many alerts are generated once again due to non-critical anomalies.

**Solution:** Add severity scoring for better prioritization (e.g., "vibration + temperature + oil debris = severe"), will help minimize some of the noise and improve the actionable insights.

#### Phase 4 Outcomes

- **1. 30% Improved Diagnose Time:** RCA completion time improved from 48 hours to 34 hours, enhancing operational efficiency.
- **2. Predictions with IoT:** 50% of possible failures are marked before they occur with predictive analytics built from IoT.
- **3. All in One Data Platform:** All plants conduct similar RCA workflows, ensuring a robust process and better integration across the organization.

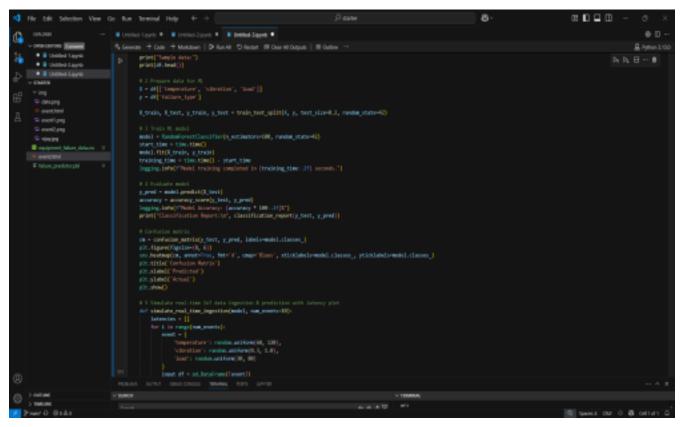
# **Next Steps for Finalization**

In Phase 5, we'll roll out the RCA system across the entire enterprise, making it the standard everywhere. At the same time, we'll set up continuous feedback loops so the system keeps learning and improving, helping us refine our predictive maintenance models over time.

# **Sample Code for Phase 4:**

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# **Performance Metrics Screenshot for Phase 4:**

