Failure Modes and Effects Analysis of Magneto-**Rheological Brake**

Bhau K. Kumbhar, Pranit M. Patil, Satyajit R. Patil, Suresh M. Sawant

Abstract- In this work, an effort has been made to study the reliability analysis of the system using the Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA) technique. FMEA is a development tool used to identify failures and effects on system, products or services. In addition to identifying failure modes and failure mode effects. FMEA provides for quantification and categorisation of failure information in order to allocate and prioritize the risk. The greatest impact of FMEA is in pre-production phases of new product or system development in order to provide failure free systems and products during implementation. FMEA is a versatile tool that has many expressions and that can be integrated with the statistical and software tools to provide for a comprehensive view of risk. Thus, the various possible causes of failure and their effects of a magneto-rheological (MR) brake along with the ways of prevention are discussed in this work.

Index Terms— MR Brake, FMEA, Probability, Risk Priority Number (RPN), Recommendations.

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INTRODUCTION 1

Magneto rheological (MR) brake is type of brake, which works on the principle of properties of MR fluid. A magnetorheological fluid is smart fluid which changes its phase from liquid to the solid on the application of lagnetic field and vice versa only within few mili seconds [1].

In the case of all fluids the variation of viscosity with temperature is reversible but this does not allow the viscosity to be controlled easily. In the case of MR the fluid viscosity becomes intelligently controllable using the magnetic field. This change of viscosity up to the solid condition is reversible and is the basic feature of MRF technology [2], [3].

MR brake actuates in following manner; when magnetic field is applied, viscosity of fluid suddenly increases due to a chain like structures. This chain-like structure restricts the motion of the fluid and therefore changes the rheological behavior of the fluid. The MR-effect is produced because of this resistance to flow caused by the chain-like structure. Since there is no mechanical linkage in this brake so the stopping distance & stopping time to stop the vehicle is less [4].

Reliability is the probability of a device performing its purpose adequately for the period intended under the given operating conditions [5], [6].

Reliability is carried out by two ways [7],

- (a) Qualitative Analysis:
 - 1. Failure mode effective analysis (FMEA)
 - 2. Fault tree Analysis (FTA)
- (b) Quantitative Analysis:
 - 1. Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA)
 - 2. Statistical Process Control (SPC)
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2 FAILURE MODES AND EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA) 2.1 Introduction to FMEA

Failure mode and effect analysis (FMEA) is primarily a quality planning tool. It is useful in developing features and goals for both products and processes, in identifying critical product/process factors and designing counter measures to potential problems, in establishing controls to prevent process errors, and in prioritizing process subunits to ensure reliability.

Failure mode and effect analysis is a tool that examines potential product or process [8].

The FMEA process is typically utilized in three areas of product realization and use, namely design, manufacturing and service. A design FMEA examines potential product failures and the effects of these failures to the end user, while a manufacturing or process FMEA examines the variables that can affect the quality of a process. The aim of a service FMEA is to prevent the misuse or misrepresentation of the tools and materials used in servicing a product [8].

There is not a single, correct method for conducting an FMEA; however the automotive industry and the U.S. Department of Defense (Mil-Std-1629A) have standardized procedures/ processes within their respective realms. Companies who have adopted the FMEA process will typically adapt and apply the process to meet their specific needs [8].

The FMEA process supports the design process by

- Objectively evaluating the design through a knowledgeable team,
- Improving the design before the first prototype is built,
- Identifying specific failure modes and their causes,
- Assigning risk-reducing actions that are tracked to closure.

Successful implementation of FMEA will

- Improve the reliability and quality of product while identifying safety issues,
- Increase customer satisfaction,
- Reduce product development time,
- Track corrective action documentation, .
- Improve product and company competitiveness,
- Improve product image.

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2.2 Process to conduct FMEA

Following steps are consider for processing the Failure Mode Effect Analysis (FMEA) [8].

- Identify all components or systems at given level of the design hierarchy.
- List the function of each identified component or system.
- Identify failure modes for each component/system. Typically there will be several ways in which a component can fail.
- Determine the effect (both locally and globally) on the system.
- Classify the failure by its effects on the system operation.
- Determine the failure's probability of occurrence.
- Identify how the failure mode can be detected (may point out what needs to be inspected on a regular basis).
- Identify any compensating provisions or design changes to mitigate the failure effects.

A group of experts goes through the design of a system, considers all possible faults of all involved components and attempts to identify their impact on the fulfillment of the functionality and safety of system. When potential failure modes are identified, corrective action can be taken to eliminate them or to continually reduce a potential occurrence. The FMEA also documents the rationale for the chosen manufacturing process. It provides for an organized critical analysis of potential failure modes and the associated causes for the system being defined. The technique uses occurrence and detection probabilities in conjunction with severity criteria to develop a risk priority number (RPN) for ranking corrective action considerations [9].

Performing the task is costly, because precious expert working hours are spent, and it is error prone, because human analysis tends to be incomplete. It is also repetitive, because, at least in theory, it should be applied after major design modifications. The procedure described in is summarized in Figure 1 [9].

2.3 Elements of FMEA

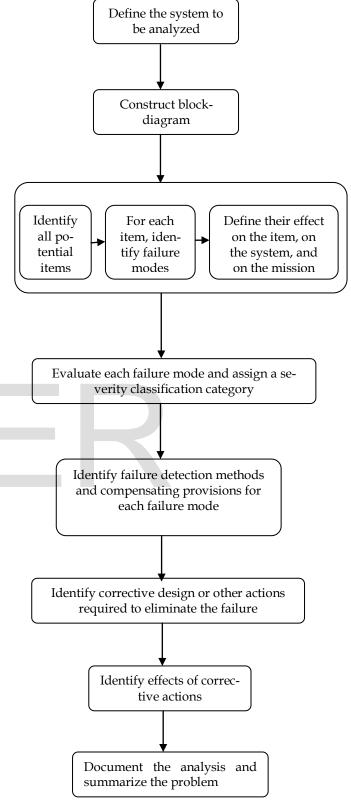
1. **Failure** -the way in which a design fails to perform as intended or according to specification.

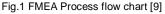
2. Effect- the customer resulting from the failure mode.

3. **Cause** -which an element of the design resulted in a failure Mode.

It is important to note that the relationship between and within failure modes, effects and causes can be complex. For example, a single cause may have multiple effects or a combination of causes could result in a single effect. To add further complexity, causes can result from other causes, and effects can propagate other effects [10].

An effective FMEA identifies corrective actions required to prevent failures from reaching the customer; and to assure the highest possible yield, quality, and reliability Designers often focus on the safety element of a product, erroneously assuming that this directly translates into a reliable product. If a high safety factor is used in product design, the result may be overdesigned, unreliable product that may not necessarily be able to function as intended.





2.4 Scope of FMEA

The FMEA is comprised of two sections: a Functional Block Diagram (FBD), and the Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA) spreadsheet [11].

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FMEA utilizes a team generally composed of the following sections:

- Design Engineering,
- Manufacturing Engineering,
- Field Service [7].

2.5 Functional Block Diagram (FBD)

The functional block diagram is a step-by-step diagram that details the functionality of a development process. The process is broken down in to three parts-input, process and output. The FBD is high level diagram detailing the high level processes that take place for each input, process and output. The FBD cannot begin until there is technical understanding of the design or process by all the FMEA team members. Here team leader provides the necessary detailed information, i.e. schematics mechanical drawings theory of operation and so on. The team must be sure that they agree that they understand the device or system described by the team leader and his documentation.

The following steps are considered for drawing the FBD:

- Identify the high-level processes that take place in the design.
- Identify the inputs and outputs.
- Write three FBD labels (Input, Process, Output).
- Place the labels on the wall beneath each FBD titles.
- Identify the necessary inputs for high-level process and align them under the high INPUT label.
- Finally, write down the outputs that results from the process, placing them under the OUTPUT label.

2.5.1 Functional Block Diagram (FBD) of MR brake

We have done the functional block diagram of MR brake. Following Figure 2 shows the FBD of MR brake,

2.6 FMEA Spreadsheet

The FMEA spreadsheet is a form that consolidates the FBD and fault tree in a manner that facilitates organizing the relative importance or risks of the failure mode. The FMEA spreadsheet has several columns. User can modify number of columns as per suitable requirements. The table 1 describes the standard spreadsheet and the columns from the spreadsheet described are as follow:

Failure Modes & Effect Analysis



Company/Organization Name:

Assembly: Owner:

Date:

Team Members:

TABLE 1STANDARD FMEA SPREADSHEET

| Α | В | С | D | Ε | F | G | Η | Ι | J | Κ | L | Μ | Ν | 0 |
|-----|--------------|-------|---------|-----------------|---|---|---|-------------|---|-------------|----------------|------|-------|-------|
| NO. | Failure Mode | Cause | Effects | Fault Detection | S | 0 | D | R P N | н | F R U | Recommendtions | Who? | When? | Audit |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | IJS |

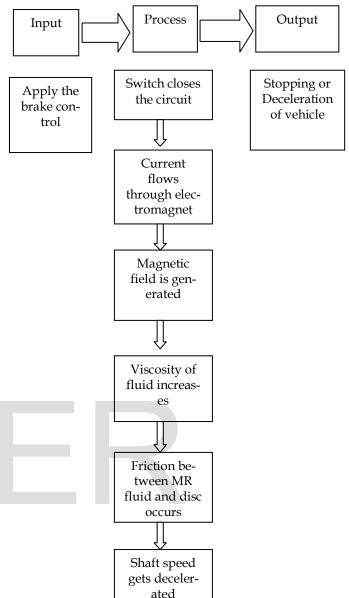


FIG. 2 FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM (FBD) OF MR BRAKE

2.6.1 Standard FMEA Spreadsheet

- **1.** Line or row number: (We do not have this one and should add it to the form).
- **2. Failure mode:** A brief description of the low-level failure mode.
- 3. Cause: What could cause failure to occur?
- **4. Effects:** What effect does this failure have on the top-level design on process?
- 5. Fault detection: What could have been put in place to minimize or prevent the failure mode from occurring?
- 6. Severity(S): A metric in units from 1 to 10, with 1 as minor and 10 as major. Severity is thought of from the point of view of the customer or end user.
- 7. Occurrence (O): A metric in units from 1 to 10 with 10 the most frequent and 1 the least frequent. It is an estimate of the probable period before observing an oc-

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currence; generally thought of as a field failure issue.

- 8. Detection Ranking (D): A metric in units from 1 to 10 with 1 as very high probability that the failure mode will be detected and 10 as very high probability that it will not.
- **9. Risk Priority Number (RPN):** A metric that is the product of occurrence, severity and detection ranking. This number can range between 1 and 1000. The higher the RPN number the higher the risk of the failure mode.
- **10. Hazard or Safety (H):** Does this failure mode create a hazard? Does this failure mode create a safety problem?
- **11. Field Replaceable Unit (FRU):** Used to generate a recommendation for FRUs to your field service department.
- **12. Recommended Action (What):** A brief description of what the FMEA team recommends will have to be done to mitigate the failure mode.
- **13.** Who: The person or persons assigned to the recommended action.
- **14.** When: The date on which the recommended action is to be completed.
- **15.** Audit (A): A check-off placeholder that indicates that the recommended action has been completed to the satisfaction of the FMEA team.

2.7 Risk Priority Number (RPN) Ranking

For calculating the RPN number it is essential to know the Occurrence, Severity and Detect ability ranking. The scale for calculating Occurrence, Severity and Detect ability ranking, use ratings as given in table 2.

2.7.1 Risk Priority Number (RPN) Calculation

RPN is nothing but risk priority number. When the severity, occurrence and delectability columns have been completed, the next step is to calculate RPN by multiplying three metrics together. The RPN number can range between 1to1000. Risk Priority Number is calculated by,

RPN=S*O*D

Where,

RPN=Risk Priority Number, S=Severity, O=occurrence, D=Detection.

After you have completed entering all the RPN numbers, you will observe that the FMEA is beginning to take shape. Usually, there will be many numbers below a certain level or baseline. There will be few numbers above that baseline as well. The magnitude of RPN will highlight the top areas that need to be considered for improvement

TABLE 2 RPN RANKING(Levin,2008)

| | Occurrence | | Severity Rat- | | Detect ability |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|--|--------|--|
| | Rating | | ing | | Rating |
| 1 | Failure is unlikely or remote | 1 | Essentially no effect | 1 | Certain detec- tion |
| 2 | Less than 1 per 100000 | 2 | Not noticeable by customer | 2 | Very probable detection |
| 3 | Less than 1 per 10000 | 3 | Noticed by discriminating customer | 3 | Probable detec- tion |
| 4 | Less than 1 per 2000 | 4 | Noticed by typical cus- tomer | 4 | Moderate de- tection proba- bility |
| 5 | Less than 1 per 500 | 5 | Slight custom- er satisfaction | 5 | Likely detec- tion |
| 6 | Less than 1 per 100 | 6 | Some measur- able deteriora- tion | 6 | Low detection probability |
| 7 | Less than 1 per 20 | 7 | Degraded per- formance | 7 | Very low de- tection likely |
| 8 | Less than 1 per 10 | 8 | Loss of func- tion | 8 | Remote detec- tion likely |
| 9 | Less than 1 per 5 | 9 | Main function loss, customer dissatisfaction | 9 | Very remote detection |
| 1 0 | Less than 1 per 2 | 1 0 | Total system loss, customer very dissatis- fied | 1 0 | Uncertainty of detection |

2.8 FMEA Spreadsheet for MR Brake

We have done the FMEA Spreadsheet for magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake). Table 3 represents the overall Spreadsheet for MR Brake and recommendations have been tubulated in Table 4.

TABLE 3 FMEA FOR MAGNETO-RHEOLOGICAL (MR) BRAKE

| Sr. No. | Failure Mode | Cause | Effects | Fault Detection | S | 0 | D | RPN |
|------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| 1. | Open circuit | Corroded switch | Brake not actuating | Visual inspection | 09 | 01 | 02 | 18 |
| | | Damage to conductor | Brake not actuating | Visual inspection | 10 | 02 | 03 | 60 |
| | | Improper mounting of switch | Brake not actuating | Visual inspection | 09 | 04 | 03 | 108 |
| | | Use of weak spring | Brake not actuating | Visual inspection | 09 | 04 | 03 | 108 |
| | | Improper Connection | Brake not actuating | Diagnostic check | 09 | 05 | 02 | 90 |
| 2. | Leakage of MR Fluid | Improper Mounting of seal | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 09 | 04 | 03 | 108 |
| | | Breakage of seal | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 10 | 03 | 01 | 60 |
| | | Cracked casing | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 10 | 01 | 02 | 10 |
| | | Dimensional inaccu- racy of mating parts | Brake Inadequate | Measurement and Inspection | 10 | 04 | 06 | 240 |
| 3. | No supply | Discharged battery | Brake not actuating | Diagnostic check | 10 | 04 | 03 | 150 |
| | or insuffi- cient cur- | Failure of charging system | Brake not actuating | Diagnostic check | 08 | 03 | 03 | 72 |
| | rent | Short circuit | Brake not actuating | Diagnostic check | 09 | 05 | 02 | 90 |
| | | Damaged battery | Brake not actuating | Diagnostic check | 10 | 02 | 04 | 80 |
| | | Loose contact of ter- minals | Brake not actuating | Visual inspection | 09 | 06 | 01 | 54 |
| | | Failure of relay | Brake Inadequate | Diagnostic check | 09 | 03 | 02 | 54 |
| 4. | Degradation of MR Fluid | Thickening of MR fluid due to aging | Brake not actuating | Laboratory testing | 08 | 02 | 04 | 64 |
| | | Thinning of MR fluid due to temperature | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 10 | 04 | 04 | 160 |
| | | Contamination | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 09 | 04 | 04 | 144 |
| | | Change in chemical composition | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 09 | 03 | 04 | 108 |
| | | Incorrect chemical formulation | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 09 | 03 | 04 | 108 |
| 5. | Increased gap size | Due to wear of disc or stator | Brake Inadequate | Measurement and Inspection | 07 | 03 | 02 | 54 |
| | | Deflection of casing, disc or stator | Brake Inadequate | Measurement and Inspection | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |
| | | Due to bearing failure | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 07 | 05 | 03 | 105 |
| 6. | Bearing failure | Wear due to lack of lubrication | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 07 | 04 | 03 | 84 |
| | | Vibrations | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 07 | 05 | 04 | 140 |
| | | Seizure due to im- proper mounting or improper fit | Brake Inadequate | Visual inspection | 07 | 06 | 02 | 84 |
| 7. | Insufficient torque | Incorrect selection of MR Fluid | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 07 | 01 | 05 | 35 |
| | | High gap size | Brake Inadequate | Measurement and Inspection | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |

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| Low magnetic field strength | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 07 | 03 | 04 | 84 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Heavy weight of brake assembly | Brake Inadequate | Measurement and Inspection | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |
| Less surface area | Brake Inadequate | Measurement and Inspection | 07 | 02 | 04 | 56 |
| Magnetic saturation | Brake Inadequate | Laboratory testing | 07 | 04 | 05 | 140 |
| Insufficient current | Brake Inadequate | Diagnostic check | 07 | 05 | 01 | 35 |

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

TABLE 4RECOMMENDATIONS ON OVERALL FMEA

| Sr. | RPN RANGE | CAUSE | RPN | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|---------------|------------------|---|-----|---|
| No. 1. | Above 500 | NIL | | |
| 2. | Above 200-300 | Dimensional inaccu- racy of mating parts | 240 | Tolerance and fits to be ensured and 100% inspection to be made compulsory in process plan itself. Gauges should be used during inspection/Quality Control process. SQC tools like <i>X</i> and <i>R</i> chart should be used so as to control the process. |
| 3. | Above 100-200 | Use of weak spring | 108 | Hardening of spring is recommended. |
| | | Improper mounting of switch | 108 | A visual check should be made compulsory to ensure proper mounting of switches. Proper connection of switch be ensured and testing be made mandatory. |
| | | Discharged battery | 150 | Water top up and cleanliness of terminals be ensured after every two months. Periodic check on charging system is recommended. |
| | | Thinning of MR fluid due to temperature | 160 | Material of high thermal conductivity like Aluminum and alloys is recommended for casing of MR Brake. During design stage, feasibility for cooling /ventilation be studied. |
| | | Contamination | 144 | Good quality seals based on criterion of compatibility with MR fluid be selected. Seals should be mounted properly during the assembly of the brake. |
| | | Change in chemical composition | 108 | Correct formulation of MR fluid be ensured during design stage. Periodic certification for MR fluid composition be made mandatory during the usage period. |
| | | Incorrect chemical formulation | 108 | Selection of MR fluid be based on functional requirements. Chemical analysis and certification of batch sampling be made mandatory. |
| | | Vibration | 140 | • Proper mounting of bearing should be ensured in the form of alignment of shaft outer diameter and bearing inner race. |
| | | Due to bearing failure | 105 | Bearing of appropriate load carrying capacity be used during design and assembly. Periodic lubrication of bearing be ensured. Bearing be mounted properly on the shaft. |
| | | Magnetic saturation | 140 | MR fluid with high magnetic saturation be selected/formulated. Maximum current level for the MR Brake operation based on magnetic saturation limit be identified and set in the system. |
| | | | | LISER @ 2015 |

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We have done the FMEA spreadsheet for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake) –Design stage. Table 5 represents the

spreadsheet for MR Brake in design stage and in table 6, recommendations have been tabulated.

2.8.1 FMEA spreadsheet for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR om Brake) -Design stage:

| I ABLE 5 |
|----------------------------------|
| FMEA FOR MR BRAKE (DESIGN STAGE) |

| Sr. No. | Failure Mode | Cause | Effects | Fault Detection | S | 0 | D | RPN |
|------------|----------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| 1. | Leakage of MR Fluid | Dimensional inaccu- racy of mating parts | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 10 | 04 | 06 | 240 |
| 2. | Degradation of MR Fluid | Incorrect chemical formulation | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 09 | 03 | 04 | 108 |
| | | Thinning of MR fluid due to temperature | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 10 | 04 | 04 | 160 |
| 3. | Increased gap size | Due to wear of disc or stator | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 03 | 02 | 54 |
| 4. | Bearing failure | Vibrations | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 05 | 04 | 140 |
| 5. | Insufficient torque | Incorrect selection of MR fluid | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 01 | 05 | 35 |
| | | High gap size | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |
| | | Low magnetic field strength | Brake Inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 03 | 04 | 84 |
| | | Heavy weight of brake assembly | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |
| | | Less surface area | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 02 | 04 | 56 |
| | | Magnetic saturation | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 04 | 05 | 140 |
| | | Insufficient current | Brake inadequate | Prototype testing | 07 | 05 | 01 | 35 |

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

 TABLE 6

 RECOMMENDATIONS ON DESIGN STAGE FMEA

| Sr. No. | RPN RANGE | CAUSE | RPN | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|------------|-------------------|---|-----|--|
| 1. | Above 500 | Nil | - | - |
| 2. | Above 200- 300 | Dimensional inaccuracy of mating parts | 240 | • Tolerance and fits be selected for shaft and disc assembly. |
| 3. | | Incorrect chemical formu- lation | 108 | Selection of MR fluid be based on functional requirements. Chemical analysis and certification of batch sampling be made mandatory. |
| | Above 100- 200 | Vibrations from bearing | 140 | Appropriate bearing be selected based on static and dynamic load capacity of the same. Instructions with regard to proper mounting of bearing should be included in the design document. |
| | | Magnetic saturation | 140 | MR fluid with high magnetic saturation be select- ed/formulated. The minimum magnetic saturation limit should be 250kA/m. Maximum current level for the MR Brake operation based on magnetic saturation limit be identified and set in the system. It should never exceed 2.0 amps. |
| | | Thinning of MR fluid due to temperature | 160 | • A temperature indicator/gauge be provided on the display panel of vehicle. |

2.8.2 FMEA for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake) (Manufacturing and Assembly Stage):

We have done the spreadsheet FMEA for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake) (Manufacturing and Assembly Stage). Table 7 represents the FMEA for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake) in (Manufacturing and Assembly Stage). And we also tabulated recommendations in Table 8.

TABLE 7

| FMEA FOR MR BRAKE (M | MANUFACTURING AND | ASSEMBLY STAGE) |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|

| Sr. No. | Failure Mode | Cause | Effects | Fault Detec- tion | S | 0 | D | RPN |
|------------|--|--|--------------------------|------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| 1. | Leakage of MR Fluid | Improper Mounting of seal | Brake inadequate | Assembly Test- ing | 09 | 04 | 03 | 108 |
| | | Dimensional inaccura- cy of mating parts | Brake inadequate | Online Inspec- tion | 10 | 04 | 06 | 240 |
| 2. | No supply or insuf- ficient current | Loose contact of ter- minals | Brake not actuat- ing | Assembly Test- ing | 09 | 06 | 01 | 54 |
| 3. | Degradation of MR Fluid | Incorrect chemical formulation | Brake inadequate | Assembly Test- ing | 09 | 03 | 04 | 108 |
| 4. | Increased gap size | Deflection of casing, disc or stator | Brake inadequate | Online Inspec- tion | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |
| 5. | Bearing failure | Seizure due to im- proper mounting or improper fit | Brake inadequate | Assembly Test- ing | 07 | 06 | 02 | 84 |
| 6. | Insufficient torque | High gap size | Brake inadequate | Assembly Test- ing | 07 | 02 | 02 | 28 |

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

 TABLE 8

 RECOMMENDATIONS ON MANUFACTURING AND ASSEMBLY STAGE FMEA

| Sr. No. | RPN RANGE | CAUSE | RPN | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|------------|---------------|---|------------|---|
| 1. | Above 500 | Nil | - | - |
| 2. | Above 200-300 | Dimensional inaccuracy of mating parts | 240 | Tolerance and fits to be ensured and 100% inspection to be made compulsory in process plan itself. Gauges should be used during inspection/Quality Control process. SQC tools like X and R chart should be used so as to control the process. |
| 3. | Above 100-200 | Improper mounting of switch Incorrect chemical formu- lation | 108 108 | Proper connection of switch be ensured and testing be made mandatory. Batch sampling at appropriate frequency be made mandatory. Third party certification be introduced at certain time intervals. |

2.8.3 FMEA for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake) (Field Stage):

We have done the Spreadsheet for Magneto-rheological Brake (MR Brake) (Field Stage). Table 9 represents the FMEA for

MR Brake in Field Stage and the recommendations for the same have been tubulated in Table 10.

TABLE 9 FMEA FOR MR BRAKE (FIELD STAGE)

| Sr. No. | Failure Mode | Cause | Effects | Fault Detec- tion | S | 0 | D | RPN |
|------------|--|--|--------------------------|------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| 1. | Open circuit | Damage of conductor | Brake not actu- ating | Visual inspec- tion | 10 | 02 | 03 | 60 |
| 2. | Leakage of MR Fluid | Breakage of seal | Brake inade- quate | Visual inspec- tion | 10 | 03 | 01 | 60 |
| | | Cracked casing | Brake inade- quate | Visual inspec- tion | 10 | 01 | 02 | 10 |
| 3. | No supply or in- sufficient current | Discharged battery | Brake not actu- ating | Diagnostic check | 10 | 04 | 03 | 120 |
| | | Failure of charging system | Brake not actu- ating | Diagnostic check | 08 | 03 | 03 | 72 |
| | | Short circuit | Brake not actu- ating | Diagnostic check | 09 | 05 | 02 | 90 |
| | | Damaged battery | Brake not actu- ating | Diagnostic check | 10 | 02 | 04 | 80 |
| | | Loose contact of ter- minals | Brake not actu- ating | Diagnostic check | 09 | 06 | 01 | 54 |
| | | Failure of relay | Brake inade- quate | Diagnostic check | 09 | 03 | 02 | 54 |
| 4. | Degradation of MR Fluid | Thickening of MR flu- id due to aging | Brake not actu- ating | Laboratory testing | 08 | 02 | 04 | 64 |
| 5. | Bearing failure | Wear due to lack of lubrication | Brake inade- quate | Visual inspec- tion | 07 | 04 | 03 | 84 |
| 6. | Insufficient torque | Insufficient current | Brake inade- quate | Diagnostic check | 07 | 05 | 01 | 35 |

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

TABLE 10

RECOMMENDATIONS ON FIELD STAGE FMEA

| Sr. No. | RPN RANGE | CAUSE | RPN | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|------------|---------------|---|-----|--|
| 190. | | | | |
| 1. | Above 500 | Nil | - | - |
| 2. | Above 200-300 | Nil | - | - |
| 3. | Above 100-200 | Discharged battery Thinning of MR fluid due to tempera- ture | 150 | Guidelines for battery servicing be included in user service manual. A check on charging system be suggested in the service manual. User be sensitized about the effect of temperature on the operation of MR fluid. Further use of brake application be avoided on hearing blinking noise which should be made to occur when temperature exceeds 140° C. |
| | | Due to bear- ing failure | 105 | • Instruction with regard to bearing lubrication be added in the service manual. |

Thus, FMEA for MR Brake in all stages has been carried out and recommendations to avoid failure which are more severe have been identified.

3 CONCLUSION

Stage-wise FMEA for MR Brake has been evaluated and it has identified severe failure modes. To avoid these failure modes, the recommendations have been suggested on the same, such as:

- a. Tolerance and fits to be ensured and 100% inspection to be made compulsory in process plan of leakage of MR Fluid.
- b. SQC tools like \mathcal{X} and \mathbb{R} chart should be used so as to control the Manufacturing process of disc and stator.
- c. During design stage, feasibility for cooling /ventilation should be studied.
- d. Proper mounting of bearing should be ensured in the form of alignment of shaft outer diameter and bearing inner race.

With the implementation of these recommendations, one can improve the reliability of MR Brake system. Still, battery technology is not that much reliable so that we cannot substitute the conventional hydraulic system by MR Brake system, since MR Brake largely depends on battery. So, MR Brakes are recommended to be used in combination with conventional hydraulic brake system for motor vehicles.

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