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SCANA UK introduces truload – assuring the integrity of industrial fasteners for life

British engineering company SCANA UK has launched truload, marking a significant advance in the world of industrial fasteners. truload utilises proven, patented technology to remove the inaccuracies from the bolt tightening process. The system offers an easy, cost-effective means of monitoring the integrity of industrial fasteners throughout their lifetime. Improved efficiency and peace of mind are just two of the benefits that truload is already bringing to a broad spectrum of applications.

Why truload?

No two joints are precisely the same. For example, two apparently identical bolts, tightened with equal torque, can produce vastly differing loads. This is largely due to variable friction resulting from slight differences in lubrication, washer specification, thread quality, material selection, cleanliness and service history.

If a bolt is incorrectly loaded, it can be become loose or fracture. Either scenario could have significant consequences.

A comprehensive maintenance programme goes some way towards ensuring that a load-bearing fastener will retain its integrity. However, this is not sufficient to eliminate unplanned downtime or lost revenue due to fastener failure. Moreover, there are safety concerns and environmental impact to be considered.

SCANA UK has long sought to improve standards of maintenance and service, researching and developing techniques to remove the uncertainty from traditional fastener systems by ensuring that every bolt is tightened precisely.

The product of this research and development is truload.

A load off your mind

truload is a range of intelligent fasteners that provide accurate loading during assembly and throughout service life.

The graph below shows that variable friction can account for a load difference of as much as 75% between identical bolts tightened to the same torque, providing actual loads of almost 50% of expected values. truload allows the load in each fastener to be directly measured. This means that the effects of variable friction can be eliminated, ensuring that every fastener performs to its optimum capability.

Graph to compare loading of a four bolt flange using torque and truload



This left section of the graph clearly shows the varying loads induced into the four bolts tightened using a pre-set torque. Even after re-tightening, the spread of values represents 75% of the expected load figure.

The right hand side of the graph shows the same bolts tightened using truload. After the second tightening the variance in load induced was less than 3%.

truload's patented technology is easy to use, is a direct replacement for existing bolts or studs and offers a range of tangible benefits:

Boosts efficiency

Not only are bolts loaded correctly first time, they can be easily spot-checked or continually monitored to track performance throughout their working life. This deeper insight allows maintenance downtime to be planned in advance – minimising disruption and improving the efficiency of core processes.

Saves money

truload reduces the costs associated with routine maintenance, replacing damaged bolts, repairing defective joints or, worse still, accounting for incidents occurring as a result of joint failure.

Improves safety and environmental performance
 Depending on the application, the result of fastener failure can have significant
 safety and environmental consequences. A truload system optimises safety
 standards and minimises environmental impact.

Performance under pressure

truload meets the rigorous demands of a broad range of industrial applications including process facilities, road haulage, railway transport, pipelines, civil structures, power generation, and military and aerospace applications.

Find out more

To find out more about truload, log on to <u>www.scanauk.com</u>, contact us at <u>info@scanauk.com</u> or call +44 (0) 117 979 0090.