



## *Q: “Why Do Bearings Squeak?”*

**A:** Typically, squeaking or noise only happens during dramatic life-cycle testing.

Break-in periods are more common times to have noise and can sometimes be relieved by lubricants or lightly sanding bearing ID. Relatively lighter load applications are more susceptible to noise than high loads.



Squeaking is the result of vibration at an audible frequency. The vibrations are the result of a slip-stick condition. If this condition happens at a frequency that is harmonic with the dynamics of the shaft/bearing/housing system, then noise will generally be heard.

There are a number of factors that can effect the dynamics of a bearing joint. Some of these factors are load, clearance, bearing type and size, shaft surface finish and hardness, span between bearing supports and/or housing design.