

# Selection of Proper Maintenance Strategy for Paper Industry

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## **INTRODUCTION**

In any continuous manufacturing process, maintenance is of the utmost importance. Loss of production due to forced outage of the production facility, or even part of the production facility, can have considerable effects on profitability. Specifically, in the pulp and paper industry, with its inherently high production costs and small operating margins, the need for efficient, cost-effective and practical monitoring systems is more pronounced than ever before. In our paper mills, we spend about Rs. 1500/=, Rs. 2300/= & Rs. 3000/= per ton of paper production towards cost of maintenance, labour cost and energy cost respectively. The cost of down time due to breakdowns is estimated at 4% of the fixed assets. The average capacity utilization of Indian paper industry is about 80% as against world bench mark of 92% and the plant availability is about 85% as against world bench mark of 96%. Therefore, in order to achieve a competitive edge in the present economic scenario, our paper industry has to select proper maintenance strategy for their survival.