

The Cost of NOT Implementing TPM

(Source: http://www.tpmonline.com/articles_on_total_productive_maintenance/tpm/noimplement.htm)

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One of the most frequent concerns among the manufacturing plants owners, is: What is the cost of implementing TPM? Dozens of people have asked just that question in my presentations and my answer is always the same:

The cost of implementing TPM is a formula where the components are already in plant:

- Maintenance programs in place
- Age of the equipment
- Pace to be taken

Some plants have excellent programs in place and have kept their equipment in very good shape, so the cost for them will be lower than for those who have a bad program or none in place.

Old equipment sometimes will face the high cost of parts if attainable.

If you want a fast paced implementation, the cost per year will be higher.

Facing reality: The cost of implementing TPM is not important. Compare it to a necessary surgery. Then you will think:

What is the cost of NOT implementing TPM?

At this crucial point of global competition, the implementation of Total Productive Maintenance is not a matter of liking it or following the fashion. While TPM was in the 60's just an innovative thing, today it has turned into a survival strategy.

Not very long ago I finally had the opportunity to implement on a machine after several months when the production people could not afford to release it for us. Two weeks later the machine went back in production performing at its full capacity, almost double of what it was working before the project. The moral here is: for each week that the implementation was procrastinated, the product of that machine had a cost of almost double than it has now. For some products and trades, this kind of cost increase can represent the temporary or definitive loss of market share.

TPM is capable of bringing a machine back to original condition and even better. Let us not waste that opportunity, because the cost of postponing a decision that we will have to make sooner or later, can be excessive. I am fully convinced that the loses for each day of delay are out of our imagination. Look for information and get started, one machine at a time. The results will come to make you proud.