CPMS Newsletter
"As the Wrench Turns"

What a Relief!

With Covid and the Elections dominating the news for so many months, I think we are all exhausted. Unfortunately, after this election, half the country will still be disappointed. But, with the recent announcement that effective covid vaccines are on the way, it is an opportunity for us all to celebrate.

As we enter the Holiday season, and maybe get together with family (safely!), let's hope that the coming months really do usher in a happy and healthy New Year.

Run to Failure Maintenance?

We've talked about this subject before and for most of our customers it is never profitable to wait for equipment to fail instead of ensuring they are properly maintained. The picture on the right might illustrate a really bad day for a locomotive brake manufacturer and maybe the engineer!

An example of when RTF maintenance may be OK is when the impact (cost) of the failure is low. If you are only dealing with the cost of the repair, and no production lost time, then RTF is fine.
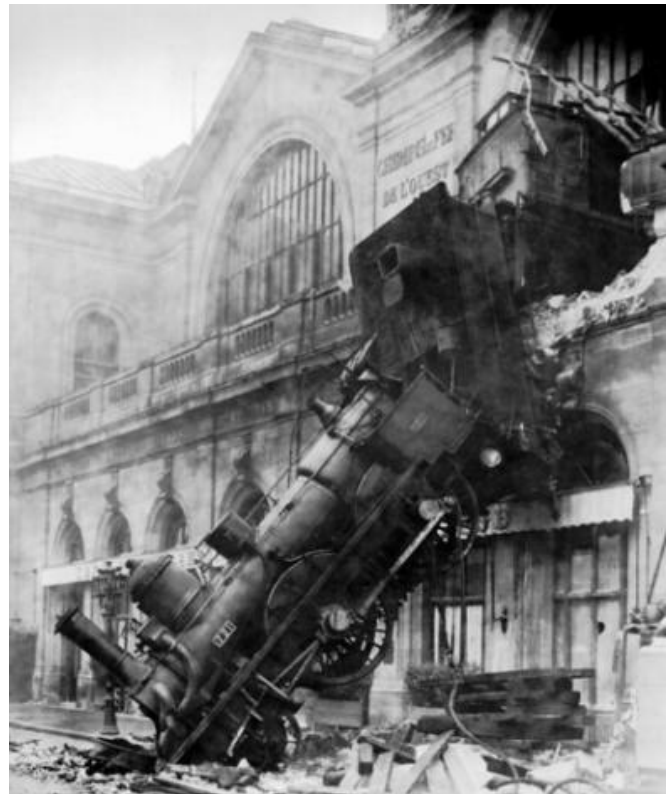
When building your Equipment list and Master Schedule with all of the PM frequencies and tasks, you have the opportunity to identify the critical machines which will stop production if they fail. That is where you want to focus your PM labor. Some offline equipment, such as a fork lift, could be RTF maintenance or handled by an outside contractor who maintains hundreds of forklifts. If you added them to your PM tasks the labor cost could be more than the cost of the failure.

One of the mysteries for those plants who run their equipment virtually non stop is how it can be cost justified? They've sold the product so they need to produce it on schedule if possible. This may mean running equipment harder than the warranties allow. However, the big picture may be that after adding up the cost of the equipment along with all the

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installation and field engineering costs, and a large inventory of spare parts, the manufacturer may be able to absorb some of the RTF cost and help the plant put equipment back in service.

I think that if you bought a new Corvette every year and raced one of the older models at the race track which was prohibited under the warranty… the dealership might cover the cost of warranty repairs for that vehicle because you are a very good customer.

Since there never is a *good* reason to run critical equipment to failure, you should do your best to avoid unplanned outages. Even *hidden* failures, where "there was nothing we could do to avoid that problem", can usually be prevented. The analysis effort required to determine the root cause of a serious problem is almost always worth the effort.
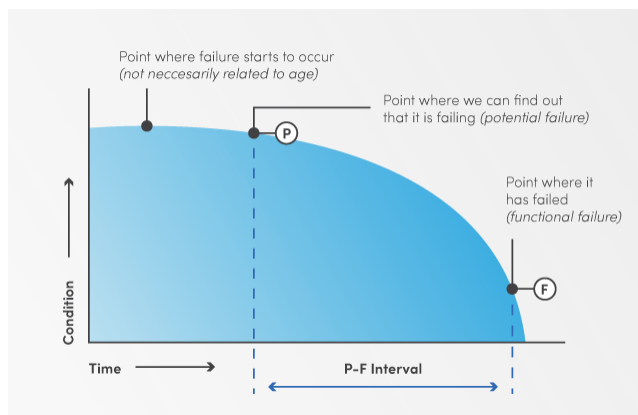
The graph shows a machine that is running fine until Point "P" where it is beginning to fail. Later, if no repair is made, you reach Point "F" where the machine fails. The P-F interval is your window to correct the problem.

Most of our customers do not have enough down day time to make necessary repairs and perform important PM's. However there <u>are</u> two things you can do to help reduce equipment failures.

1. **During the week when equipment is running, inspect all of the critical equipment in the plant. Note problems which may need to be corrected ASAP and those which can wait until the down day.**

2. **Make a list of critical repairs and overdue PM's that should be done on the next down day when the equipment can not be running. Include estimated repair times and parts. Prioritize the tasks so that you are ready to assign work when you know your repair window.**

If you are already doing items 1 & 2 above, you are an asset to your company and hopefully they know it!

Features that you *wish* were in CPMS

No customer uses all the features available in CPMS and that's OK. Similar to your PC or smart phone, there are many functions you don't know about and others that you don't need. However, you should take a quick look at some of the following items that are already in CPMS that you didn't know about. We are always ready to walk you through any these that you might want to try out.

- Have you ever wished you could use an old/closed Work Order where a major repair was done, see all the parts that were used, and with one click use it again? You can!
- After setting up your parts room, or even after using CPMS for a number of years, how

accurate are your min/max levels? We will walk you through the Recalculate Min/Max Levels utility so that you can see where you may be over/under stocking your parts.

- When you remove a piece of equipment did you know there is a report which shows all the parts used on that equipment but not on any others? This is very helpful if you want to free up some shelves/bins in your stock room.
- How would you go about rebuilding all of the Equipment Failure descriptions which you see in a popup window when adding equipment breakdown?
- Have you used the Self Audit utility to locate errors and help you make a good CPMS data base into a great data base?
- The PDF button on the Master Schedule screen form allows you to include portions of manuals when printing work cards
- The Work Load Balancing option allows you to easily track the time and cost for all of the work performed in your plant and charged to each piece of equipment.
- The Work Card Planner function displays the total minutes and hours for all your PM's and Work Orders for any date range. It shows the PM and Work Order time scheduled for each mechanic every day this week; the total PM and Work Order hours for the current week Open and Closed; the total PM and Work Order hours for past weeks Open and future weeks Open. You can quickly determine if you have over or under scheduled a day, week and for one or more mechanics.
- CPMS makes it easy for the mechanics to close out their own PM's, enter and close Work Orders, and even add Equipment Failures and print out a one page report… all with just a few mouse clicks.
- Request parts with the click of a button and then automatically generate purchase orders; requested parts can be reviewed and approved based upon this period's budget and priorities; the total dollar amount for approved parts is displayed on the Purchase Request screen; when you are satisfied with the approved parts requested, you can click the Create PO's button and purchase orders

will automatically be generated, sorted by vendor, and ready to print. You don't have to add PO's anymore!

And, there are a lot more features we could list that you may want to start using. We understand that it's natural to do what you know and not change your daily routine unless you must. There needs to be a compelling reason to learn something new when the old way "seems just fine". However, let us show you a better and easier way to use some of these CPMS functions.

And the Winner is…

Cindy Like from Lewis Bakery had the only correct answer.

The questions was: If you have an employee who has left the company some time ago, what would block you from deleting the employee number and all the related history using Supervisor, Check/Delete Key Columns?

And the answer is: If there are any entries in the Master Schedule with that employee number, you must reassign the PM to another employee.

CPMS Quiz

For $100
What are the two steps to list all of the equipment which has no PM Duties?

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