PULP AND PAPER

QCS Automation Software Maintenance
Lifecycle management

ABB’s QCS Automation Software Maintenance (ASM) program helps keep quality control software up-to-date while providing a flexible path forward to new system software technology. Paper mills can now maximize their system investment with this lifecycle management program that enhances system availability, reliability and performance while reducing maintenance costs.

Overview
ABB’s QCS ASM program fosters proactive system management and reduces both technical and financial constraints with easier software delivery.

This program enables access to the latest QMS software for continuous enhancements between system upgrades, contributing to an overall improved and simplified upgrade process.

ABB’s QCS ASM program is unique in that it features a tiered subscription service that allows customers to access the latest updates within their current version whenever they may want them – including patches, new features, and more. By taking advantage of incremental system updates, mills can achieve enhanced performance and improved production – while reaching the next level of cyber security.

Features
• Two subscription options to align to system status and upgrade needs
• Access to the latest updates, patches and features all on an on-demand basis for QCS800xA 6.0 SP1 and higher
• Ability to upgrade to new QCS800xA versions including new licenses and functionally
• Access to Online Spectral Analysis license, which provides operators/engineers with the ability to view and detect spectral content of sheet quality variations
• myABB business portal access that enables program management, premium system documentation etc.

Benefits
• Increase operating performance with continuous system enhancements
• Better manage and predict your total cost of ownership
• Access to the latest features and enhancements through incremental updates
• Better diagnose process issues with the unlocked OSA feature
• Reduce maintenance and support costs through shorter software delivery times
Proactive system management

The program provides the fundamental software support deliverables required to maintain operation and maximize the availability of QCS800xA – including continuous software enhancements between system updates for customers with QCS800xA v6.0 SP1 or higher. This keeps quality control software up-to-date, providing solutions for the main challenges system owners may encounter to achieve maximum availability and reliability of the quality control system such as:

• Software maintenance and upgrades
• Cyber and IT security
• Online access to relevant information

Customers who want to cost-effectively improve their system, or those who are ready to make larger upgrades, can now do so quicker and more easily because less engineering is involved. These newer system enhancements are all geared to improve plant effectiveness and long-term support. Plus, the subscription model helps mills simplify annual budgeting while also gaining a clearer understanding of the CAPEX and OPEX costs when making a QCS investment.

Examples of recent feature releases QCS ASM subscribers could have accessed:

• Updated MCD including new user interface, including integrated bump test setup and analysis as well as LVC extension
• MCD external measurements and shrinkage mapping support
• MCD standalone (no QCS measurement needed)
• Revamped Color Controls including updated user and engineering displays and faceplate operation
• Operating support for Windows

Online Spectral Analysis (OSA)

QCS ASM enables process troubleshooting through its Online Spectral Analysis feature. The included OSA license unlocks the ability to view and detect spectral content of sheet quality variations, allowing operators/engineers to better diagnose process issues.

• Offers maximized OSA availability to the full installed base within a mill for more consistent process troubleshooting capabilities
• Provides data needed for swift in-depth process analysis to minimize additional support from ABB Service teams

Cyber Security

ABB fully honors the importance of cyber security and its role to advance the security of control systems. ABB customers can rely on system solutions where reliability and security have the highest priority. Similar to process and safety improvements, security improvement needs to be a continuous activity.

Improvements are always prioritized and included as an integral part of the release cadence to enhance security against cyber attacks and new threats.
Two program levels provide great flexibility to mills evolution needs

1. **QCS ASM Maintain Plus** provides access to continuous updates for the different releases of QCS800xA within the current version (from v6.0 SP1 and above). Releases of QCS800xA contain both fixes and enhancements, so customers can also benefit from new or improved features, while keeping pace with important cyber security updates.

2. **QCS ASM Maintain & Evolve** includes all the benefits of the Maintain Plus level, with the added ability to go between major QCS versions, e.g., moving from heritage and classic to current system versions. Obsolete functionality and features are in some cases replaced by others. It will provide new licenses, functionally equivalent to the ones of the heritage system to be evolved. In some cases, a function has been discontinued and will not be replaced, at the discretion of ABB.

**Commitment to lifecycle management**

ABB’s life cycle management program offers a two-pronged approach to maximize the value of your investments while optimizing asset life. QCS ASM allows our customers to choose the level of support and the upgrade schedule that works best for immediate business needs and long-term production targets.

**Program Deliverables**

The QCS Automation Software Maintenance program offers multiple levels of support and covers not only the system software, but also the Network Platform firmware and the Actuator Control Center related embedded software.

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QCS Automation Software Maintenance Table of Deliverables