ABB restores a plant’s competitive edge.

The client was achieving high levels of plant reliability, but the costs of operating in a growing global competitive market were chipping away at profits.

High reliability was funded by high maintenance costs and poor equipment life. The plant was burning through dollars via emergency change-outs.

Core maintenance work was being completed by contractors and reliability was more a result of new equipment rather than well-cared for equipment. ABB carried out a plant reliability study.

“Winning solutions are often the result of a winning formula that contain the best practices from various areas. Forming a partnership with ABB leveraged improved performance and lower costs into the plant site. Our results are a continuing and sustainable process that will pay dividends well into the future.”

Maintenance Manager
Solution

ABB were contacted to support the customer’s improvement approach with reliability study. The study identified a number of gaps that needed closing to improve maintenance performance.

Improvement opportunities were identified in the following key areas:

- Core maintenance competencies
- Maintenance methods and practices
- Maintenance work planning and scheduling
- Stores management - in particular stocking and control

ABB carried out an implementation programme.

- A maintenance strategy was put in place to move to a more preventative maintenance based regime
- In-house competencies in maintenance were strengthened and key tasks in-sourced
- Work management and planning processes were improved
- We took a reliability-based approach to getting the right levels of stock and subsequent spares optimization
- We introduced KPIs to monitor performance
- We focused on reliable operations by adopting best practice maintenance techniques and routine

Benefits

- Overall reliability improved by 10%
- Pump reliability improved by 52%
- Pump repair costs reduced by 30%
- 25% reduction in maintenance manpower costs
- Work management processes implemented
- Best practice approaches adhered to
- Spares optimised
- Performance monitored through KPI’s

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3rd Party Maintenance Labour Expense

(major turnaround months in light grey)