

RBC SERVICES UPDATE

RBC Services
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ELIMINATE EMERGENCY RBC REPAIRS BY TAKING A WALK

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At most every wastewater treatment facility, a lot of time is spent performing maintenance and repairs on every piece of process equipment – from the comminutor or bar-screen, to the chlorine contact chamber or UV system.

When repairs become necessary, it usually means something broke down. If you could reverse the time on that piece of equipment and start over, an inspection schedule would be the first order. When wear becomes evident, it is time to schedule maintenance. Making a schedule means you can perform maintenance on *your* time, and not have to *make* the time for a repair.

It's the same situation with any RBC in the field, regardless of whether it's Autotrol, Hormel, CLOW, Walker, LYCO, Envirex or U.S. Filter. A regular inspection program will save you hours of maintenance and repair time – not to mention cost.

While there are some plants that operate many RBCs, most have five or less. The simple inspection is a casual walk-through with your morning cup of coffee. The short time spent on that walk every day will save you the need to run later.

There aren't many items to look at and listen to. If you do see or hear something questionable, take a minute and check it out. If there's a concern, schedule some time that day to take a closer look. The problem comes when equipment is left alone and not tended to...that is, until it breaks down.

Unscheduled shutdowns can cause additional expenses such as overtime premiums for "fixing the problem", price penalties on special-run production for non-stock parts and possible fines for non-compliance. An inspection and maintenance program can eliminate the emergency shutdown, save time and money, and optimize the design life of your equipment.

After the scheduled inspection is completed, you'll know what parts you'll need, find out how long it will take to get them and find out about any other procedures which may be necessary. From that, you'll also know when the shutdown can be scheduled. Most importantly, you will be able to budget and allocate maintenance expenses well in advance of your needs.

There are only a few main items to check during your walk-through. They are listed on the reverse side. Learn to practice the walk and start saving the time. And, if you run into something that creates a question, give me a call. With more RBC field experience than any other company in the U.S, I'm sure we can come up with the answer.

Rotation: A general listen will indicate if there are any obstructions while rotating – debris, media

support structure, etc. If you hear something unusual, take a closer look.

Media: Media packs or modules should be secure with no apparent movement during rotation. Any movement indicates the need for closer inspection and possible adjustment.

Bearings: There should be a lubrication schedule already set and followed. Take a look – see if you spot any suspicious metal shavings. Listen – you might hear a slight scratchy sound.

Shaft-Mount Drive: Check to see if there is any movement of the drive. It should run still. Listen for any slight thumps or grinding noise. If belt driven, are the belts squealing or slapping?

Chain & Sprocket Drive: Check to spot if there is any movement of the drive. It should run still. Listen for any slight thumps or grinding noise. If belt driven, are the belts squealing or slapping? While operating, look through the top port of the chain case for at least one revolution to check the sprocket alignment. The teeth of the driven sprocket should appear to move back and forth in the chain links.

Air Driven: With a flashlight, look at the water along the media length. The emerging bubbles of air should be uniform. If there is an area of excess bubbles, it may be a damaged diffuser. Check the expansion joint for leaks. And of course, don't forget the blowers.

Regardless of what you may run across during the walk-through, scheduled inspection or scheduled maintenance, we can provide you with the information and any guidance you may require. Factory authorized replacement equipment is also available from RBC Services, not only for your RBCs, but that also goes for those of you who operate rectangular clarifiers.

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR EXPERIENCE...

AND OUR EXPERIENCE HAS NO EQUAL