

# Effect of Preventive Maintenance on the Production Line Machines and Systems Reliability: Case Study

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## **Authors' contributions**

*This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.*

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**Case Study**

## **ABSTRACT**

The aims of this study are to introduce the appropriate preventive maintenance to the production line machines at the company to increase their reliability and reduction the shutdown, and to obtain more safety. Mean time between failure, mean down time and availability are investigated as the best indicators to generally evaluate all type of maintenance. Pareto diagram and Effect-Cause techniques both have been used for identifying where and what are the problems in the production lines. The big and serious way that the company staff was using was maintenance of run to failure. Many solutions in this paper are introduced to the company to follow the proper preventive maintenance. After one year monitoring to those production lines, their productivity increases by 15.47% and the reliability becomes high.

*Keywords: Preventive maintenance; availability; Pareto diagram; cause-effect diagram.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This study mainly focuses on the failures accrues in the production line at snacks line, GENBack company. Recently preventive maintenance (PM) is one of the most roles which affects on the reduction of the breakdown in any system. The system reliability absolutely depends on PM and their perfect applications on that system.

The failures analysis follows many techniques such as MTBF, MTTR, Availability, cause and effect diagram and Pareto chart.

Sunday and Richard studied the implementation of preventive maintenance Program in power industry and thermal power plant [1]. Ahmad et al. [2] investigated the maintenance management decision model for preventive maintenance strategy on production equipment. Hasnida et al. [3] studied the effective preventive maintenance scheduling. Jian Zhang et al. [4] focused on proposing an optimal inspection-based preventive maintenance policy for three-state mechanical components under competing failure modes. Bruno et al. [5] studied the preventive maintenance development: A case study in a furniture company. A new model for solving the joint optimization of maintenance activity and inventory of spare parts since the model was implemented and tested on a set of benchmarks generated has been investigated by Anis et al. [6].

## 2. WORK STUDY

### 2.1 Effective Failure of Production Line

To choose the effective failure, the production lines for study have been analyzed by data collecting historically including mechanical &

electrical failures for all production lines in this plant to choose the production line where the greatest problem occurs leading to breakdown. The mechanical and electrical downtime data was collected and are incorporated in Table 2.1. It is seen that the greatest problem among the lines was identified in the production line of snacks as 21.18% downtime of operating time.

### 2.2 Determination of Excessive Failure of Stage, Section and Machine

There are four main stages in snacks production line as shown in Fig. 2.1. Pareto diagram as statistical analysis tool was used in order to analyze and select the critical stage of failure at snacks production line as shown in Table 2.2 and Fig. 2.2. From the Fig. 2.3 it is found that the packing stage has the biggest downtime. To specify the bigger downtime at section of backing stage, pie chart was used as shown in Fig. 2.4. The maintenance performance indicators analysis of MTBF, MDT and availability are used to determine which the machine is required more attention for preventive maintenance scheduling. The availability plays the most important role in determination of the fatigue machine and can be calculated as the following equation:

$$MTBF = \frac{OT_{ac}}{N_{bd}} \quad (2.1)$$

$$MDT = \frac{TDT}{N_{bd}} \quad (2.2)$$

$$A\% = \frac{MTBF}{MTBF+MDT} \times 100 \quad (2.3)$$

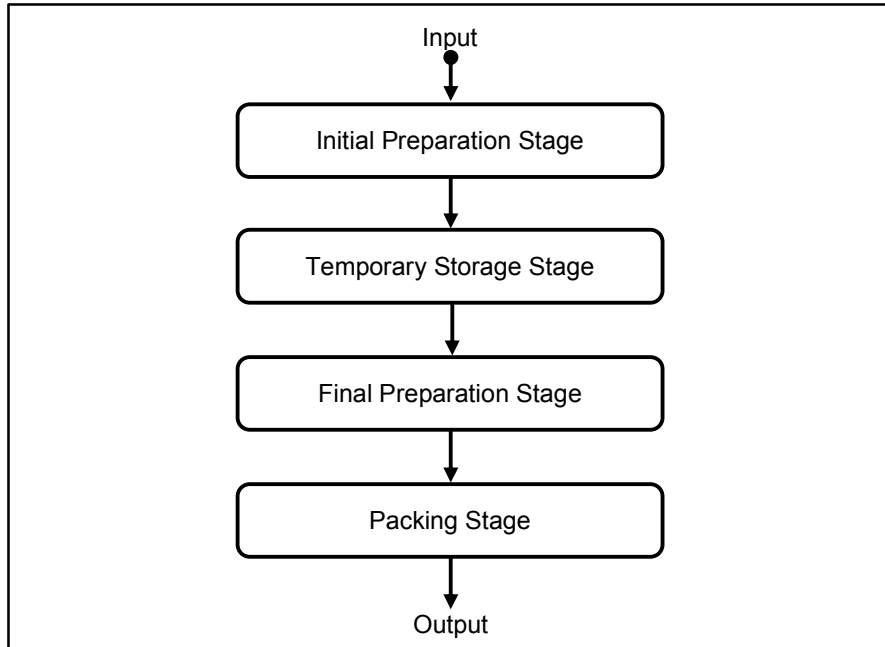
Where MTBF is the mean time between failure, MDT is the mean downtime,  $OT_{ac}$  is actual operating time,  $N_{bd}$  is number of breakdown,  $TDT$  is the total downtime, and A is the availability.

**Table 2.1. Percentage downtime of production lines according to operating time for line itself**

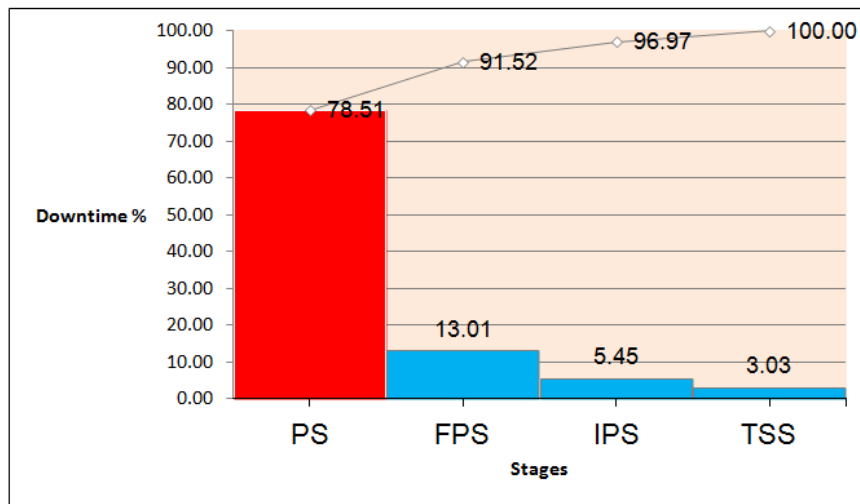
| Production lines | Mechanical downtime (%) | Electrical downtime (%) | Total downtime (%) |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Lollipops        | 7.08                    | 3.72                    | 10.8               |
| BarLine          | 4.79                    | 3.78                    | 8.57               |
| Tahinia          | 7.56                    | 1.85                    | 9.41               |
| Tahinia Bar      | 5.76                    | 3.15                    | 8.91               |
| Spaghetti Pasta  | 6.56                    | 6.17                    | 12.73              |
| Short Pasta      | 12.76                   | 7.63                    | 20.39              |
| Snacks           | 9.63                    | 11.55                   | 21.18              |
| Bafk             | 1.13                    | 5.61                    | 6.74               |
| Bubble Gum       | 5.7                     | 0.76                    | 6.46               |

**Table 2.2. Downtime of snacks production line stages**

| Snacks production line stages   | Downtime (hr) | Downtime (%) | Cumulative (%) |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Packing stage (PS)              | 2483.56       | 78.51        | 78.51          |
| Final preparation stage (FPS)   | 411.50        | 13.01        | 91.52          |
| Initial preparation stage (IPS) | 172.34        | 5.45         | 96.97          |
| Temporary storage stage (TSS)   | 95.85         | 3.03         | 100.00         |



**Fig. 2.1. The snacks stages for production line**



**Fig. 2.2. Pareto chart for downtime of snacks production line stages**

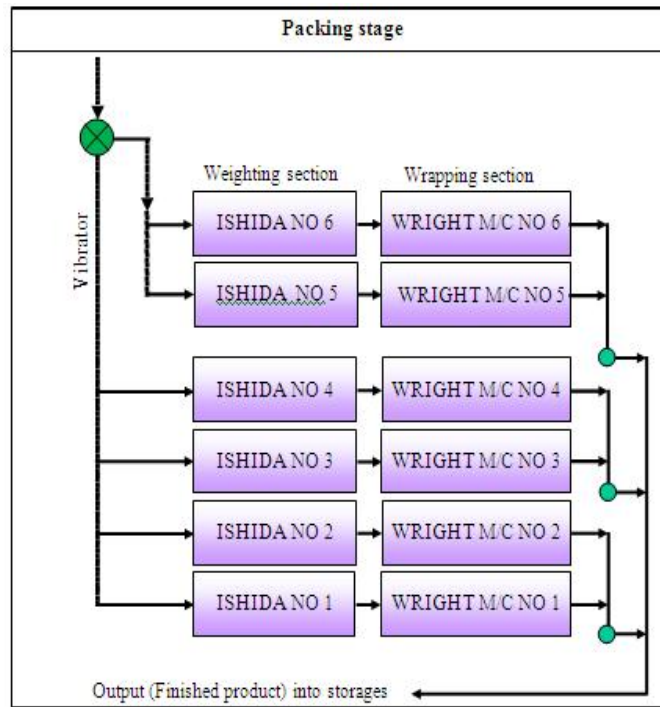


Fig. 2.3. The product flow at packing stage

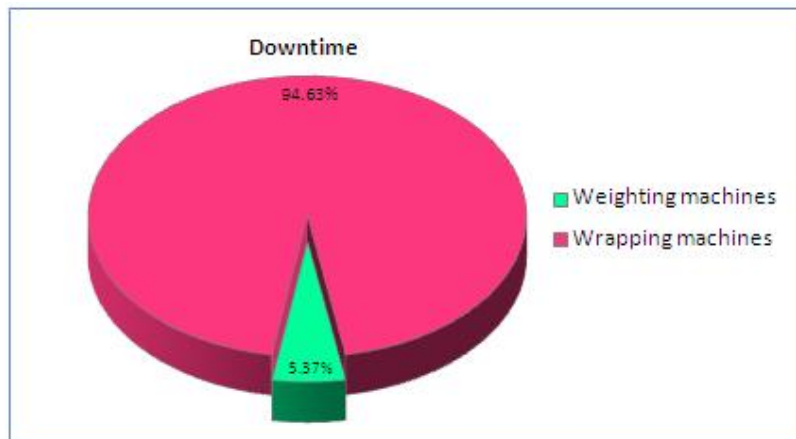


Fig. 2.4. Section downtime of packing stage machines

### 3. PROBLEM DEFINITION AND ANALYSIS

From the previous analysis process, it is deduced that the machine No. 6 (wrapping machine) has less availability during the operating hours. MTBF, MDT and availability have been calculated and are depicted in Table 3.1. The technique of cause-and-effect diagram is used to identify, sort, and display possible causes of a specific problem as shown in Fig. 3.1.

The possible causes related to the problem in machine No.6 have been investigated and found that all these causes were under the maintenance branch (Fig. 3.1). Moreover, Fig. 3.2 shows the parameters that affect the MDT, which significantly led to the reduction of machine availability. It is evident that the run to failure maintenance was mainly carried out in the company since the downtime of machine represent 58.24% of the total machine downtime. As well as the maintenance inventory was not

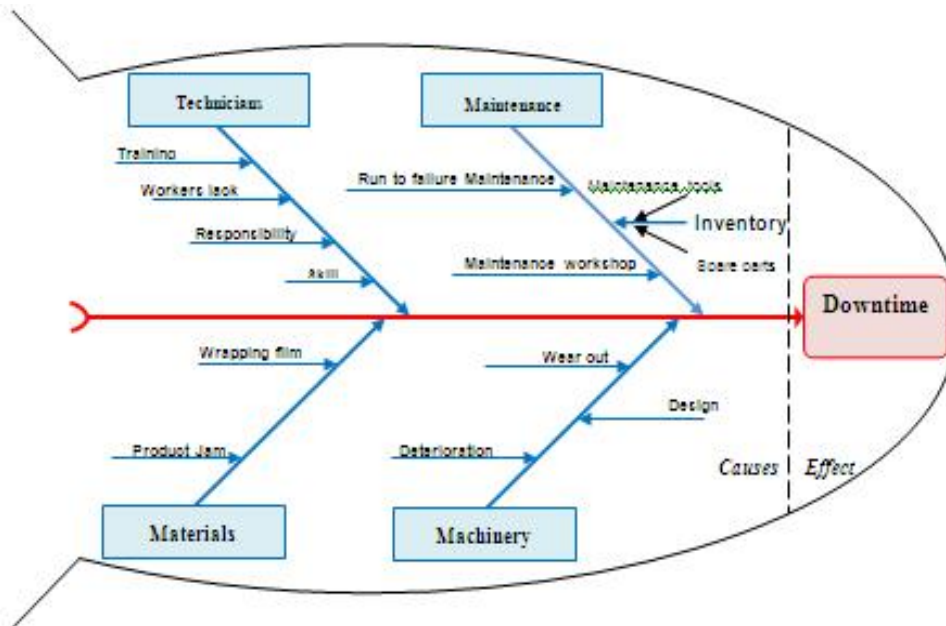
planned therefore the downtime has taken place as a percentage of 25.4% of the total machine downtime.

Also by survey in the production machines at the company, approximately 21.93% of the repair

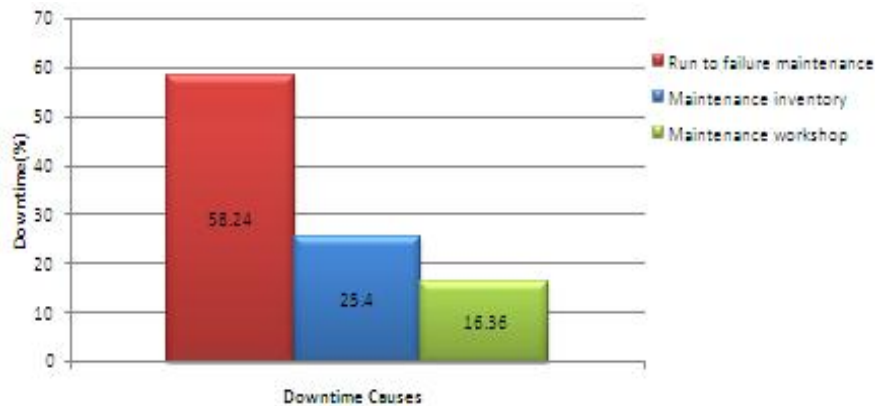
time is spent to look for a maintenance tools and spare parts that are misarranged and cause confusion for the maintenance workers in the maintenance workshop. This proportion of the waste time is about 16.36% of the total machine downtime.

**Table 3.1. MTBF, MTRR and availability for the production lines**

| Machine number | Machine code | MTBF (hrs) | MTRR (hrs) | Availability (%) |
|----------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| 1              | 03340310     | 31.19      | 0.96       | 97.01            |
| 2              | 03340313     | 52.00      | 0.90       | 98.30            |
| 3              | 03340312     | 30.95      | 1.61       | 95.06            |
| 4              | 03340311     | 39.82      | 1.14       | 97.22            |
| 5              | 03340320     | 16.43      | 3.72       | 81.54            |
| 6              | 03340322     | 22.29      | 7.23       | 75.51            |



**Fig. 3.1. Cause and effect diagram**



**Fig. 3.2. Percentage of the affective downtime causes**

**4. STRATEGY OF APPROPRIATE SOLUTIONS**      **4.1 Implementing the Proper PM Scheduling Program**

According to results of problems analysis, many solutions are suggested in order to treat and vanish the affective causes for the machine downtime. These solutions are as the following:

PM program based on study of the machine case, the historical data, and the other requirements in order to obtain the appropriate PM program to prevent the machine from

**Table 4.1. Failure modes, root causes, preventive maintenance actions and their frequency for machine components**

| <b>Components</b>           | <b>Failure modes</b>             | <b>Root causes</b>              | <b>PM Actions</b>  | <b>Frequency</b>     |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Film reel holder            | Bearing deterioration            | No lubrication                  | Lubricate the bearing  | Daily                |
|                             | Screw looseness                  | Continuous rotation             | Inspection of the bolts and spring   | Monthly              |
| Pulling rollers subassembly | Shaft wear out                   | Misalignment, Friction          | lubrication of the rollers and bearings  | Daily                |
|                             | Bearings deterioration           | No lubrication, Improper fixing | Check film rollers from jamming<br>Inspection of the bearings and shafts, and replace as necessary   | Weekly<br>Biannually |
| Pulling Motor               | Coils combustion                 | Extreme load                    | Inspection, and recondition as necessary   | Quarterly            |
|                             | Bearings wear out                | Improper fixing                 |  |                      |
| Gearbox                     | Oil seal impairment              | Expiration                      | 1- Open the gearbox and replace the Oil seal and change the oil.<br>2- Inspection of the gears and bearings, and recondition or replace as necessary | Annually             |
|                             | Shaft wear out                   | Misalignment, Friction          |  |                      |
|                             | Bearings deterioration           | No lubrication, Improper fixing |  |                      |
|                             | Gears cracking                   | Friction, No lubrication        |  |                      |
| Optical sensor (scanner)    | Sensor impairment                | Dirtiness                       | Inspection and servicing the sensor  | Quarterly            |
|                             | Thumb nuts looseness             | Improper fixing                 |  |                      |
| Product chute               | Knurled screws looseness         | Vibration, Improper locking     | Adjusting and cleaning the Product chute and fixing its bolts  | Monthly              |
| Packet former               | Knurled nuts looseness           | Vibration, Improper locking     | Inspection, cleaning and straightness  | Weekly               |
| Sealer                      | Thermocouple dielectric smelting | Temperature increase            | Inspection of the heating elements, thermocouple, and connector  | Monthly              |
|                             | Thermocouple separate            | Electrical contact              |  |                      |
|                             | Heating elements separate        | Coil combustion                 |  |                      |
|                             | Connector separate               | electrical contact              |  |                      |
| Packet closer               | Piston plunger rod breaking      | Extreme load                    | Lubrication of the piston  | Daily                |
|                             | Plastic gears break or crack     | Use expiration                  | Inspection of teeth for the Plastic gears  | Weekly               |
|                             | Tube closer breaking             | Worn out                        | Inspection of the Tube closers   | Monthly              |

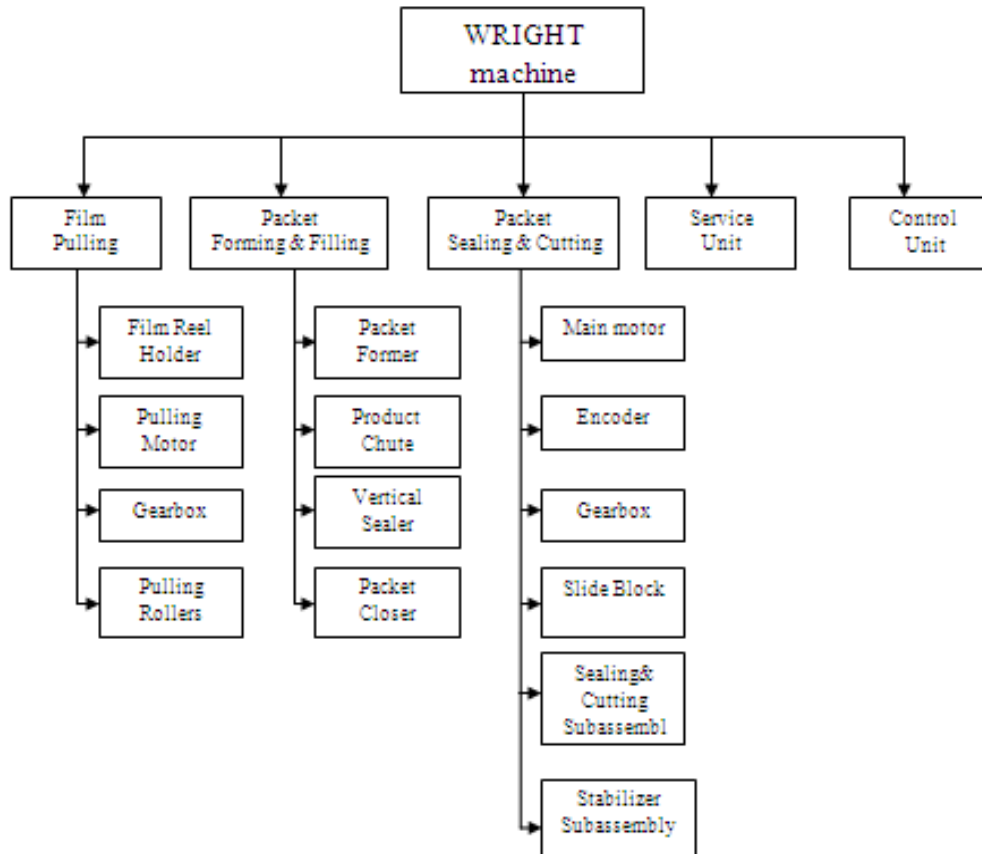


Fig. 4.1. Machine components

breakdowns that occur because of implementing the improper maintenance. This approach starts from the machine description (Fig. 4.1), identifying the machine failures modes, root causes, scheduling the PM tasks and their frequency are inserted Table 4.1, preparing the PM work orders and applying the PM program to the same characteristic machines.

#### 4.2 Maintenance Inventory Planning

Planning of maintenance inventory based on the requirements of the maintenance tasks was suggested to the company in order to avoid lack of the maintenance inventory during planned time periods.

#### 4.3 Maintenance Workshop Organizing

Modern approach to organize and arrange the maintenance workshop to make easy motion, more safety and minimize waste time. To reduce the long downtime, 5's method is suggested for using specific tools and clean place.

### 5. CONCLUSION

Pareto diagram as statistical analysis tool was used in order to analyze and select the critical stage of failure at snacks production line machines. It is clear that the company used to follow the run to failure maintenance as a wrong way. The Effect- Cause diagram analysis showed the three main effective causes on the breakdown on the production lines, are run to failure, unplanned maintenance inventory and non-organizing maintenance workshop. Proper preventive maintenance, appropriate maintenance inventory and organized maintenance workshop and skilled labors for maintenance are suggestions and recommendations were used to obtain high reliability.

### COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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