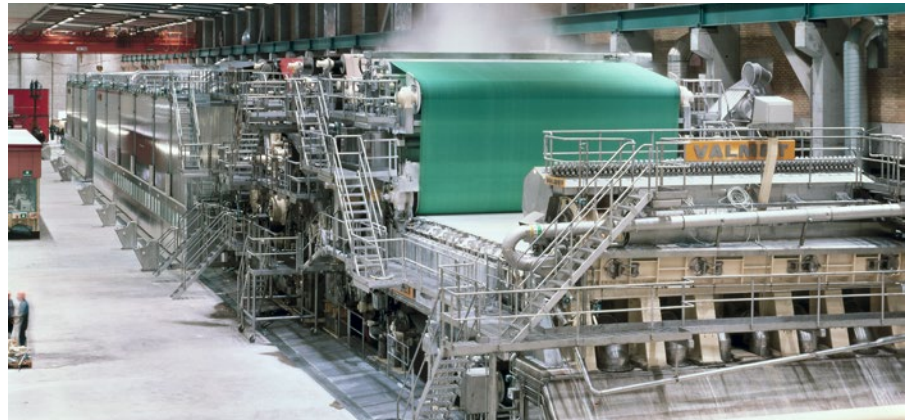


Mill converts failures to savings with SKF Three Barrier Solution

Solution results in over \$41,000 annual cost savings

A large manufacturer of recycled paperboard sought to improve reliability in order to meet production levels expected by management. The maintenance team discovered that seals in bearings located in difficult positions on a paper machine did not provide the protection necessary for the mill's harsh, wet environment. Although the mill was single source for SKF for most of their large bearings, a competitive product was being used in this troublesome application. The team contacted the local distributor to set up a joint meeting with SKF in search of a solution.

SKF and the distributor recommended SKF's Three Barrier Solution to replace the bearings and seals experiencing repeated failures. The solution consists of a sealed SKF Explorer spherical roller bearing, a split block housing, an optimized seal, and barrier grease. For highly contaminated environments, SKF recommends the SKF Three Barrier Solution because contaminants must pass through three barriers to reach the bearing. The solution extends bearing service life without the use of large quantities of grease to purge contamination. In addition to extended service life, the mill would benefit from grease, labor, and parts savings.



The SKF Three Barrier Solution was installed and the average mean time between failure went from 3 months to 15 months. As a result of this successful test, the mill worked with the distributor to standardized on the SKF Three Barrier Solution for their difficult bearing positions. Over two years later, the bearings and seals continue to provide reliable operation. The mill has documented annual cost savings for \$34,200 reduction in bearing purchases, \$6,000 reduction in machine downtime and \$900 reduction in direct labor hours needed for bearing change out.



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