THE TRAP OF DETERMINING PM FREQUENCY WITHOUT THE RIGHT DATA

A common trap in traditional **Preventive Maintenance (PM)** programs is the assumption that PM frequency should be based on how often a defect is found. If nothing shows up after several cycles, some may conclude it's safe to reduce frequency.

But this thinking is flawed.

The **correct PM interval** should be driven by the length of the **P-F interval**—the time between when a potential failure becomes detectable and when it leads to functional failure. The challenge? The P-F interval is **rarely known** with certainty.

Relying on guesswork or anecdotal "hits" leads to inconsistent performance and increased risk.

What's needed instead is **quantitative data**—detailed, repeatable inspections that allow patterns to emerge over time. With that data, PM frequency can be optimized for reliability and efficiency.

Smart PM is based on evidence, not assumptions.

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