



AESSEAL® upgrade solves bearing failure problem

A Bottom Entry Packed Gland was allowing water to fall on to the bearing assembly of a pulper at a paper company plant in the west of England. This was resulting in the failure of the bottom bearing, which was happening on average every three months.

The repair involved the overhaul of the bearing assembly, which meant that the lower assembly of the pulper had to be completely stripped and removed. This lengthy and costly process also resulted in significant interruptions to production. When the company consulted AESSEAL® about a possible solution, AESSEAL® engineers recommended replacing the gland packing with an AESSEAL® RDSX™ seal and split adapter plate.

In consultation with the customer, AESSEAL® engineers were able to use the specially-designed adapter plate to allow the seal to be fitted to the underside of the pulper. The seal and adapter plate were installed in May 2023, and more than a year and a half later, the new arrangement is working perfectly by preventing water from falling on to the bearing assembly. This has greatly reduced repair and maintenance costs and eliminated the downtime caused by the failure of the bearing.

The RDSX™ seal eliminates the need to remove or strip equipment for seal replacement, with the self-aligning rotary making it quick and easy to install at the first attempt. The RDSX™ has proved to be the ideal product to offer the benefits of a mechanical seal over traditional packing solutions without increasing maintenance costs or downtime. A second pulper at the plant has since been modified in the same way, and the conversion of a third is planned by the beginning of 2025.



‘MTBF increase from 3 months to >18 months’

Industry:	Pulp & Paper
Product:	RDSX™
Application:	Pulper
MTBF Increase:	500% (and counting)
Reference N.O:	TD3107949

