

****Developing an Operating Context****

From the facilitator's point of view you can have a 'heads up' on what the most of the functions are likely to be. You can set the boundaries of the analysis to make sure your analysis resources are included in the project plan. If you just have those two elements in place you greatly increase your likelihood of high quality and success during the analysis phase.

The Operating Context doesn't need to be a huge document but to be fully effective someone unfamiliar with your equipment and operations etc should be able to read it and then be able to follow the RCM analysis. It should all link together in a logical path.

****What needs to be included in the Operating Context? ****

How this system relates to the organizational goals, what value it adds.

History - whatever you have got in whatever state it's in.

Where the system / equipment fits into the hierarchy at the plant / block diagram

How much does downtime cost per hour / minute/ day

Overall description of the system / equipment

Known issues with the equipment including any RCAs

Cost of new replacement

The case for doing the analysis

Expected outcomes from RCM analysis

Spare parts

Boundaries - what is included and what is excluded?

Alarms and interlockings

P&IDs, engineering drawings etc.

Shift patterns

Major shutdowns