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Filters Are Not Created Equal Maintenance Adds To Total Cost

When change out and disposal costs are added to the purchase price of filters, the total cost of disposable filters can more than quadruple. A proven method of reducing total life cycle cost is larger surface area filters as shown in the figure above.

New technology and methods of filter construction now allow disposable bag and cartridge filters to hold up to 20 times more solids than their predecessors and thus, require fewer change outs. The cost of the filters becomes secondary to the cost of maintenance change-outs and disposal.

The solids not captured by any filter are allowed to pass through to the process and create problems with system stability, maintenance, operations, instrumentation, product quality, equipment, piping solids buildup, erosion, corrosion, foaming, heat transfer decline, and R/O membrane fouling.

As the owner, maintenance manager, reliability manager, purchasing agent, process engineer, design engineer, end user, distributor, or scientist, separations technology should not be left to a vendor with the lowest filter price.

A reputable filter manufacturer will offer the correct filter system for your application. Field and lab testing must be employed to determine the proper micron rating, efficiency, materials of construction, filter & filter vessel type necessary to obtain optimum filtrate, change-out frequency, and total cost of ownership for your process.

- Process performance, system protection, and cost reductions occur when unit operations utilize high-surface area absolute rated filters
- Filter manufacturers must be able to provide actual surface areas of their filters, media types, and dirt holding capacities for end-user's use to compare alternate offerings for calculation of Total Ownership Cost
- Do you know your fluid's Total Suspended Solid (TSS), Particle Size Distribution (PSD), Turbidity, and Hydrocarbon Concentration? These data are employed by your filter supplier to determine the correct choice for your process separation/recovery system.
- Your filter supplier should have in-house capability to test your process fluids. These data are then matched to the supplier's filters, tested under identical conditions. This approach assures the purchaser that filter selections were decided employing consistent testing procedures and equipment.
- **Question? Call or E-mail**