

Making a Business Case for Drainac™

The fact is, no one makes a process measurement of any kind unless there is a compelling business reason to do so. When it comes to Drainac, people want to know online freeness for a number of reasons:

Stock variability – for some reason, stock freeness is variable. It may be something going on in the pulp mill, or maybe in the hydropulper. It could be a refining issue. It could be blending. Many people install a Drainac so they can get a handle on both what the variability is and where it's coming from. Once you have an idea of what the problem is, you can take steps to fix it. Drainac gives you that visibility.

Refining Control – otherwise known as energy management. Refiners are operated with BIG motors which eat energy. An online freeness measurement lets you see exactly what your refining effort is doing to the stock. You can't eliminate refiner energy consumption, but with Drainac, you can be sure you are only refining your stock as much as you need to get the strength and network characteristics you need to make your customers happy.

Machine Runnability/Stability/Efficiency – Variable freeness usually means that you have to run your machine slower so that you can accommodate the inevitable bumps and jumps that stock variability inflicts on you. Maybe you have to dry the sheet longer. Or perhaps you're getting mystery sheet breaks. Or you're dumping paper into the broke pit because it doesn't meet spec. Maybe grade changes and startups take too long. Drainac gives you visibility to manage all of these.

Blend Control – if you blend multiple furnishes, you are always in the position of juggling blend recipes to meet a spec. It gets even more complicated if the freeness of the blend is variable – and it's always variable. Drainac gives you the visibility to blend furnishes to achieve a desired endpoint before the stock hits the machine. Plus, with Drainac, you can make small adjustments to the blend – perhaps use a little more of stock A, which is cheaper than stock B. It doesn't take long for a 1% shift in furnish consumption to add up to big savings.

Let us help you identify and fix your business problems with Drainac. Call us to discuss your application.