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- a) To find the index value for construction of a plant today we will use the following equation:

$$\bar{I}_n = \frac{W_1(C_{n1}/C_{k1}) + W_2(C_{n2}/C_{k2}) + W_3(C_{n3}/C_{k3})}{W_1 + W_2 + W_3} \times \bar{I}_k$$

Where \bar{I}_n is the index today

\bar{I}_k is the index 20 years ago, given = 100

W is the weight assigned to each item

C_k is the unit price 20 years ago

C_n is the unit price today

$$\bar{I}_n = \frac{0.3(200/150) + 0.5(365/250) + 0.2(155/100)}{0.3 + 0.5 + 0.2} \times 100$$

$$\bar{I}_n = 144$$

- b) To find the cost of a 200 000 m² plant today we use the following equation

$$C_n = C_k \left(\frac{\bar{I}_n}{\bar{I}_k} \right)$$

$$C_n = \$100\,000\,000.00 \left(\frac{144}{100} \right)$$

$$C_n = \$144\,000\,000.00$$

Therefore it would cost approximately \$144 million to build a 200 000 m² plant today

- c) From question b) we know it will cost roughly \$144 million to build a plant of size 200 000 m². Using power sizing technique with a cost capacity factor of 0.80 we will estimate the other two sizes.

$$C_A = C_B \left(\frac{S_A}{S_B} \right)^X$$

Where C_A is cost of project being estimated

C_B is cost of known project

S_A is size of project being estimated

S_B is size of known project

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X is cost-capacity factor, given = 0.80

Project A - Two 150 000 m² plants

$$C_A = 144 \times 10^6 \left(\frac{150\,000}{200\,000} \right)^{0.80}$$
$$C_A = \$114\,396\,174.80$$

Therefore it will cost roughly \$114.4 M for one 150 000 m² plant and \$228 792 349.70 for the total cost of Project A.

Project B - One 300 000 m² plant

$$C_A = 144 \times 10^6 \left(\frac{300\,000}{200\,000} \right)^{0.80}$$
$$C_A = \$199\,175\,308.90$$

Therefore the total cost of Project B is \$199 175 308.90

Therefore the company should build one 300 000 m² plant as it is more cost effective than building two 150 000 m² plants.