

3.5.8 RCM Program Components

An RCM program includes reactive, preventive, predictive and proactive maintenance. Table 3.1 below suggests the criteria to be used in determining RCM priorities.

No.	Priority Description	Application
1	Emergency	Safety mission impact
2	Urgent	Continuous operation of facility at risk
3	Priority	Mission support/project deadlines
4	Routine	Accomplish on "first come, first served" basis
5	Discretionary	Desirable, but not essential
6	Deferred	Needed but unable to accomplish until more resources available

Table 3-1: RCM Maintenance Priority Levels

3.6 Reactive Maintenance (RM)

Also referred to as Breakdown Maintenance.

3.6.1 Reactive Maintenance Philosophy

- Allow machinery to run to failure.
- Repair or replace damaged equipment when obvious problems occur

The most basic approach to maintenance is reactive, also known as run to failure. Here, the asset is used until it fails. It is then repaired or replaced. This strategy is acceptable and may be preferred for equipment with low costs and low consequences of failure. For example, if a light bulb burns out, the cost is low: a new bulb; and the consequence is low: diminished light. If the cost or the consequences of failure are high, run to failure is generally unacceptable.



Figure 3-2: Run to failure philosophy

Adverse consequences of run to failure include:

- Compromised safety or environmental compliance
- Collateral damage where failure increases the cost of repair
- Loss of product quality
- Loss of process availability
- Reduced throughput
- Increased waste and rework cost