

Plant Stability Health Check

This checklist helps you uncover where instability is hiding in your mineral processing plant. Answer seven targeted questions to identify early signs of control-related losses and learn practical next steps to stabilise your operation.

Question	Why it matters	Quick Win Tip		Yes	No
Are critical control loops often run in manual mode?	Manual operation is a symptom of inefficient process control from process changes, instrument and maintenance issues or upstream processes.	Audit loops running in manual and retune PID parameters to restore automation confidence.			
Do shift results vary significantly between crews or times of day?	Are loops operating outside of process parameter setpoints. Is the feed to a circuit erratic and unpredictable?	Compare trend data across shifts to identify loops that behave differently under varying operator inputs.			
Are alarms and operator interventions a daily norm?	Frequent putting loops into manual means your control system is reactive, not proactive. Operator fatigue increases and late, large changes cause swings in operations.	Reduce alarm frequency by stabilising loops and reviewing alarm rationalisation.			
Is recovery or throughput not predictable from process parameters	Poorly tuned loops quietly reduce efficiency. Changes to the processing conditions over time lead to changes in tuning requirements and often mimic feed variability, masking the true cause.	Analyse trend data for subtle mismatches between control response and process conditions.			
Do operators use different 'rules of thumb' for the same circuit?	Inconsistent strategies indicate low trust in automation and prevent standardisation.	Document best practices and retune loops to reduce reliance on manual adjustments.			
Are your engineers and operators spending more time reacting than improving?	Instability keeps teams in firefighting mode, limiting time for optimisation and long-term gains.	Prioritise stabilisation projects to free up engineering bandwidth for continuous improvement.			
Do you lack in-house expertise to diagnose control issues?	Even strong teams may lack the time, attention or input on control or instrumentation strategies experience needed to solve underlying issues.	Consider a targeted loop tuning audit to uncover hidden losses and restore stability quickly.			
If you answered "yes" to three or more questions your plant might be operating below its potential. Control loop instability is a hidden loss that compounds daily. The good news is that these issues are fast and low-cost to fix. Book your Plant Stability Check today and start recovering lost performance.			Your score		

