



## PROCESS RELIABILITY

# Basket Based Back-Flushing Filter Clears Cottonwood from Cooling Water

Technical Application Bulletin

### CHALLENGE

A steel mill was experiencing frequent clogging in their filters, valve pilots, and nozzles due to contamination in the cooling water supply. This resulted in disruption to processes within the mill due to downtime for cleaning, as well as reduced efficiency.

### APPROACH

Schroeder Industries identified cottonwood seeds as the primary culprit. The steel mill was located in an area with cottonwood trees nearby, and the fibrous, airborne seeds were being sucked into the cooling towers at the mill and entering the cooling water supply—a very common, seasonal issue for industrial sites in cottonwood-prone areas.

To prevent cottonwood seeds from blocking filters and other components, Schroeder deployed an RF14 Automatic Self-Cleaning Filter to screen out the cottonwood seeds and fibers before sensitive components could be impacted.

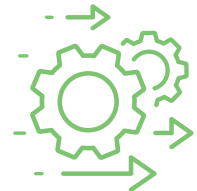
### RESULTS

- The automatic backflushing function of the RF14 allows for continuous filtration without needing to manually change or clean the filter baskets
- Cooling water supply is kept reliably free of cottonwood seed contamination
- No clogging or downtime for cleaning since the installation of the RF14
- Improved efficiency and productivity at the mill due to the effectiveness of the RF14 filter in trapping contaminants and self-cleaning without intervention from plant staff



**DOWNTIME AND INEFFICIENCY DUE TO COTTONWOOD CONTAMINATION**

**RF14 AUTOMATIC BACKFLUSHING ALLOWS CONTINUOUS FILTRATION**

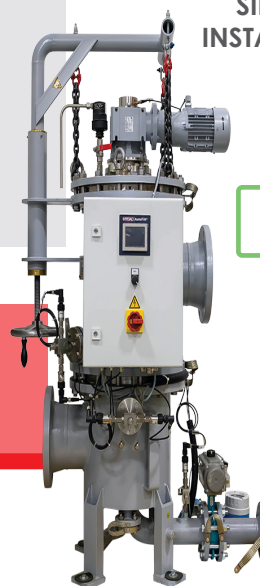


**COOLING WATER QUALITY MAINTAINED**

**NO SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS SINCE RF14 INSTALLATION**



**IMPROVED EFFICIENCY & PRODUCTIVITY**



**Schroeder Industries RF14 - For the first time in a filter, the technology of the basket-based back-flushing filter has been used in the AutoFill® RF14.**

