





















**Table 3: Case studies of flash steam recovery**

Plant	Fuel	Boiler capacity	Years in operation
Malelane Blr 6	Bagasse and coal	160 tph	16
Ubombo Blr 8	Bagasse and coal	105 tph	6

### Conclusion

Most boilers in the industry are old, in excess of 20 years, and few were designed to have a high efficiency. Fuel, such as coal, used to be cheap so even plants with sugar refineries, which were designed to burn a supplementary fuel, were designed to have a relatively low efficiency. Electricity was also much cheaper so there used to be little incentive to optimise electricity generation and to export electricity.

Although the economics have changed, making it essential to improve boiler plant efficiency, the current economic climate often prohibits replacing these boilers. Therefore the industry has to focus on existing technology that can be employed to improve the efficiency of existing plant.