Let us remember:

What is cavitation? **It´s the generation, development and disappearance of cavities in water; these cavities are filled with water vapour and gas.**

What is its origin? **A drop in pressure caused by a local increase of flow velocity close to the runner blade and in free vortices.**

What are its consequences? **Erosion, turbine efficiency drop, turbine instability, vibration, noise, fish mortality.**

Turbine cavitation quality is determined by:

- **head and suction head,**
- **turbine design,**
- **accuracy of the runner finish,**
- **state of the runner surface.**

This quality varies during the exploitation:

- **Initial surface iregularities and the irregularities resulting from repairs cause cavitation erosion, and it, in turn, intensifies the irregularities.**
- **The incidental passage of hard bodies or sand through the turbine have the same effect.**