



Why every bearing has its fans

BEARING FAILURES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPENSIVE DOWNTIME IN A NUMBER OF SCENARIOS FAMILIAR TO THE FACILITIES MANAGER. WITH SUCH A WIDE SELECTION OF BEARINGS AVAILABLE, IT PAYS TO KNOW YOU CAN REPLACE FAILED PARTS QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY.

Whether you're responsible for maintaining fans, HVAC or air handling, in a shopping centre or a factory, downtime is something you need to keep to a minimum. Which means you need bearings you can rely on to the absolute maximum. And if ever a bearing does need replacing, you need to know you can replace it quickly and efficiently so your asset can be back up and running in the shortest possible time.

There is a whole range of bearings you can choose from, to suit your particular application. But with so much choice, how do you ensure you're getting the best bearing for the job?

Bias-free bearings

Firstly, you need to be talking to a supplier with a comprehensive range of bearings available for a full range of fan applications. But you also need a supplier

who is completely transparent about the advantages and disadvantages of each particular arrangement, so you can make an informed decision. And a supplier you can trust to give you unbiased advice, that helps you to select the best solution for your application.

ERIKS not only has a choice of housed units and bearings from a range of reputable manufacturers, but also can offer expert advice on which one best suits which application.

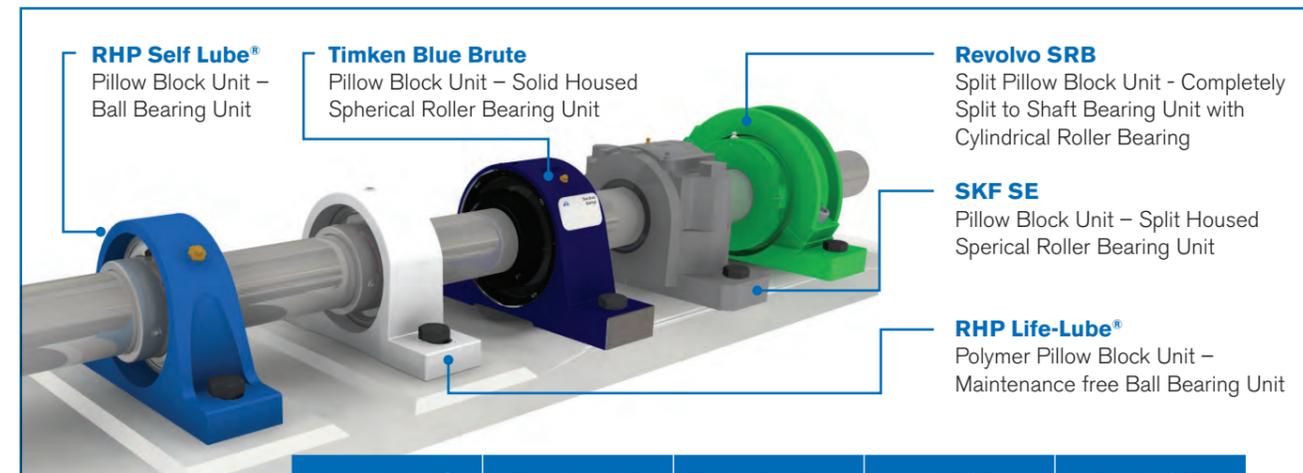
Hands-on experience

As experienced maintenance engineers as well as component suppliers, *ERIKS* have real insight into the problems posed by different fan applications. These range from the issues raised by – for example – the high temperatures bearings have to contend with in some industrial

operating environments to dirty and dusty environments where a higher level of sealing is required.

Naturally they are also aware of the requirement for absolute reliability, when a fan may sit idle for weeks, then be required to switch on and operate instantly at maximum speed.

Not least, as maintenance engineers themselves, *ERIKS* are also aware of the considerations involved in replacing bearings. With many HVAC and air handling units situated in exposed positions (often on a roof), no engineer wants to be struggling for hours in the wet and cold to swap-out a bearing. And with limited working space in many air handling units, a bearing needs to be easily removable without having to dismantle half the equipment to access it. (In this case,



	RHP Self-Lube®	RHP Life-Lube™	Timken Blue-Brute	SKF SE	Revolve SRB
Bearing type	Deep groove ball	Deep groove ball	Spherical roller bearing	Spherical roller bearing; self-aligning ball bearing; CARB toroidal bearing	Cylindrical roller bearing (Split)
Material	Bearing steel	Stainless steel with Molded-Oil™	Bearing steel	Bearing steel	Bearing steel
Housing types	2 bolt pillow block; 2/4 bolt flange; take-up unit	2 bolt pillow block; 2/4 bolt flange; take-up unit	2/4 bolt pillow block; 2/4 bolt flange; take-up	2 bolt pillow block (take-up and flange)	2 bolt pillow block, bolt flange, take-up, hangar
Housing material	Cast iron, 2 piece sheet steel	PBT thermoplastic resin	Cast steel (1 piece)	Cast iron (2 piece)	Cast Iron 2-piece and Cartridge 2-piece
Standard size range	12–100mm (+ equivalent Imperial sizes)	20–40mm	40–100mm (plus others equivalent sizes plus imperial)	20–140mm (larger range also available)	35 to 600 mm
Sealing range	Single lip nitrile rubber (standard), flinger, triple lip	Single lip nitrile rubber seal and metal flinger	Extensive, including labyrinth, triple lip	Felt (standard), and extensive range including labyrinth	Felt (standard), extensive range inc. labyrinth, garter
Shaft locking	Grub screw (standard); eccentric collar; taper sleeve	Grub screw	Set screw; eccentric collar; adapter sleeve; patented V and Double V lock	Adapter sleeve (taper bore bearings)	Clamp rings, supplied with bearing
Split	Solid housing/ bearing	Solid housing/ bearing	Solid housing/ bearing	Split housing/ solid bearing	Split Housing and Bearing

a Split Roller Bearing such as the Revolve SRB could be the answer.)

Finally, *ERIKS* know as well as any Facilities Manager that repairs or replacements have to be achieved as quickly as possible to maintain the uptime and availability of a fan.

All these considerations lie behind the range of bearing housings and units supplied by *ERIKS*, and all this experience and expertise backs up the advice *ERIKS* can offer when you need to choose your next bearing.

Meanwhile, to help you appreciate the choices available, the table (above) outlines the main points of difference to consider.

Maintenance – who needs it?

So you've got the right advice, you've chosen the right bearing unit, and you've fitted it. With the Simatec Simalube automatic lubricator, that's it until it next needs replacing in around a year's time.

Holding 30, 60, 125 or 250ml of oil or grease (which can be enough for a year's lubricant, depending on the application), the

Simalube lubricator automatically delivers lubrication for preset time periods.

Requiring no external power, the Simalube can help make dramatic savings of lubrication time and costs, for lubrication points that are trapped or otherwise difficult to access.

Which means most fans should have one, and shows why so many Facilities Managers are fans of Simalube.

