



Summary



Industry:	Food and Drink
Application:	Rotary Lobe Pump Seal Upgrade
Actual Saving:	£2,592
Payback Period:	



Alternative Sealing Solution Increases Plant Efficiency

On-site engineers are now able to perform routine maintenance on problem seals

ISSUE

A well-known confectionary company operated an Alfa Laval SRU rotary lobe pump on its chocolate line for transferring chocolate to a daily service tank. This particular pump due to the abrasive nature of chocolate was experiencing continuing leaking glands. This pump had been fitted with packed glands originally from the factory, however, over time the shaft sleeves had worn creating leak paths, causing a loss of chocolate to leak on to the production floor. As well as the product loss this can also lead to potential hygiene issues.

SOLUTION

For chocolate applications the tried and tested sealing method is a double mechanical seal with tungsten carbide faces, complete with a food grade compatible greaser delivered via an accumulator grease feed system.

Whilst this is considered to be the ultimate in chocolate sealing Alfa Laval have designed a simpler more cost effective triple lip seal arrangement.

ERIKS in consultation with the OEM Alfa Laval, offered the triple lip seal design to run on a specially designed hardened shaft sleeve. The advantage of going to this style of seal arrangement was that all on-going maintenance could now be carried out by the factory's own maintenance staff by changing out an inexpensive lip seal. All the conversion works were carried out at ERIKS specialist pump repair centre in the West Midlands.

OTHER BENEFITS

- The triple lip seal arrangement is suitable up to 7 bar pressures and temperatures up to 110°C

FURTHER COMMENTS...

This application is an excellent example of how ERIKS Pump Technology are able to advise on a wide array of systems, identifying the right product for the system / application, and look for any additional savings that can be achieved.

MORE INFORMATION

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