



Tegel Foods Extends Bearing Life to 10+ Years with H1 Quinplex® Food Grade Grease LE4024 & LE4025

Customer Profile

Tegel's Henderson plant in New Zealand processes and packages finished chicken products. The facility has been a Lubrication Engineers customer since 2008.

Application

The Henderson plant relies on conveyors and other processing and packaging equipment that operate in demanding food manufacturing conditions. Equipment in the packing room is subjected to a daily chemical washdown as part of the plant's sanitation programme. Other areas of the facility face the same washdown conditions, while ovens and fryers expose bearings to elevated temperatures.

Challenge

Before switching to LE lubricants, bearings on conveyors and process equipment were failing every 2-3 months. The daily washdown routine was washing out the commercial grease then in use, leaving bearings vulnerable to lubrication loss, wear and premature failure. The repeated failures created unplanned downtime, increased maintenance labour and drove up bearing replacements costs. Loss of production is one of the most expensive cost for any business so down time is not an option.

LE Solution

In 2012, Chris Unsworth of Lubrication Engineers NZ recommended converting the plant to LE's H1 Quinplex® Food Machinery Lubricants (4024 and 4025) for the key bearing applications.

CHALLENGE

Daily sanitation washed out the grease in use, causing frequent bearing failures and costly production downtime.

SOLUTION

H1 Quinplex® Food Machinery Lubricants (4024 and 4025)

RESULTS

- Extended bearing life from 2-3 months to more than 10 years
- Reduced bearing purchases, maintenance labour and production downtime
- Saved the plant hundreds of thousands of dollars



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H1 Quinplex is a semisynthetic food-grade grease formulated to perform in wet, high-temperature and heavily loaded operating conditions. NSF H1 registered for incidental food contact, it provides strong resistance to water washout, mechanical breakdown, rust and oxidation.

For Tegel, two grease grades were recommended. H1 Quinplex 4024, an NLG 1 grease, was selected for conveyors and general bearing points because it offered improved resistance to washout during daily sanitation procedures. H1 Quinplex 4025, an NLGI 2 grease, was chosen for higher-temperature areas, including ovens and fryers, to provide reliable lubrication under elevated operating conditions. Together, the two lubricants gave the company a food-safe solution better suited for washdown service and heat-intensive areas throughout the plant.

Results

After introducing LE4024 and LE4025 across conveyor, processing and packaging equipment, bearing life increased from 2-3 months to more than 10+ years. Bearings that once failed on a regular cycle are now being replaced infrequently.

The change to H1 Quinplex Food Machinery Lubricants has delivered substantial savings, including:

- Reduced bearing purchases
- Lower maintenance labour requirements
- Significant reductions in production downtime

Overall, the Tegel Henderson plant has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars as a direct result of the lubrication upgrade.



“Bearing failures have been significantly reduced since switching to
LE4024 & LE4025”

Paul Jephson – Plant Engineer

Other products used

Colour coded Oilsafe transfer containers

Colour coded Xport clear grease guns with Xport Lock on grease coupling.

Site auditors commenting how great the colour coding system works.

IHI automatic lubrication equipment.



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