

# Keep production rolling

with SKF bearings and Solid Oil lubrication technology

## When ingress of process material and high humidity are causing downtime

Wet and humid environment, and frequent equipment washdowns permit water and cleaning fluid to creep into the bearing. The bearing grease absorbs the water and emulsifies, changing the consistency of the grease and allowing it to easily wash out and potentially lead to early failure through accelerated wear and corrosion. Any leaking grease can cause potential contamination of the food processing line, putting food safety at risk.

## You'll have to change bearings out regularly to prevent failures.

And should one occur- depending of the type of application, your maintenance team might have only a short time to identify and replace the failed bearing before the entire operation stops. But with so much moisture, this can be challenging – not to mention dangerous. So not only do potential unplanned production shutdowns last longer, the risk of injury can be a concern, as well.



## What if you could...

- Keep moisture out of your bearings?
- Provide consistent lubrication at all times – without the need to relubricate?
- Increase uptime and eliminate production stoppages?

## Rethink bearing lubrication

Moisture can be unavoidable in most food and beverage processing. So rather than simply coping with moisture – and the reliability issues and downtime it creates – you need to rethink the very nature of the bearings used in these applications. Instead of relying on designs that can only withstand so much humidity, you need bearings that are optimally suited to perform under such unique environmental conditions.

15–25% of maintenance budget is lost due to poor lubrication\*

\* based on customer feedback

# With SKF bearings and Solid Oil lubrication technology, you can reduce unplanned downtime, improve food and people safety, and produce more at less cost.

## Lower your maintenance costs, keeping bearings free of harmful moisture

SKF bearings with Solid Oil utilize an oil-saturated, polymer matrix that virtually fills all of the free space within the bearing – while still enabling it to rotate freely. With the help of this unique bearing design, you'll have a near-impenetrable barrier against intrusive moisture, helping you eliminate grease emulsification, increase reliability, and reduce costly downtime.

## Reduce the chances of food contamination

The polymer matrix used in SKF bearings with Solid Oil is able to hold the lubricating oil in place using surface tension. As the bearing rotates during operation, the oil seeps through the pores and into the gaps between the rolling elements of the bearing, providing correct lubrication at all times. And with no traditional grease present in the bearing, you won't have to worry about it emulsifying and leaking out during prolonged use or routine washdowns. In this way, you can safeguard against potential food contamination.

## Run your assets longer without interruption

When you use SKF bearings with Solid Oil in your high-humidity applications, you'll increase uptime and eliminate the hours lost to both planned and unplanned production halts. Plus, with no grease leakage, you'll make working conditions much safer for your maintenance staff. And by limiting the time they spend replacing bearings, you'll be able to increase throughput and redirect your resources to support other initiatives.

## What you gain

With Solid Oil technology lubricated bearings, you can:

- Reduce costs by increasing reliability of bearings in high moisture environments
- Meet proactive food safety regulations
- Increase production output and make working conditions safer for maintenance personnel

### How a bakery overcame bearing failures in its proving oven

Before working with SKF and the distributor, the bakery had to pause production for 35 hours annually to replace over 800 conveyor chain bearings – to ensure reliable operation. SKF bearings with Solid Oil lubrication helped the company totally avoid unplanned stoppages during a 10 year period, saving it 300-plus maintenance hours, as well as more than €4 200 in yearly bearing-related expenses. The company avoided the financial losses associated with scrapped ingredients, wasted dough, and it also greatly improved workers environment.



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