



BAKERY OVEN BEARINGS

CUSTOMER: Bakery Oven Manufacturer

APPLICATION: Bakery Tunnel Oven O.E.M. - Bearings are used on the conveyor circuit for various styles of wire conveyor belting. Depending upon the oven, temperature can be from 450°F to 650° F. Conveyor widths are up to 12 feet and can be as long as 200 feet. Belt speed is generally slow.

PROBLEM: They had tried a variety of Sealmaster and SKF high temp bearings in this application. Greasing these bearings was a continuous problem due to the difficulty in reaching the bearings inside of the oven. In some cases, mechanics would have to crawl over the oven belt when the machine was shut down, thus causing damage to the belting and rollers. They had tried installing automatic lubrication systems with mixed results at best, and, to make matters worse, the automatic lubrication systems were causing additional cleanliness and contamination problems. Many of their ovens are faced with the possibility of caustic wash down, so even the 400 series stainless ball bearings they had tried were rusting. In some applications, bearing life was as little as 2 weeks. Once bearings failed, the idler rolls would not run and could cause premature wear on the conveyor belts.

GRAPHALLOY SOLUTION: Depending upon the oven, the customer will use our Type 327 pillow blocks, our 318 four bolt flange or our 845 two bolt flange bearings.

RESULTS: The self-lubricating properties of the Graphalloy material have eliminated the need for greasing, and the 316 stainless components are standing up well to the continuous wash down. Some bearings have been running for several years now.

GRAPHALLOY CASE HISTORY

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