No More Leaks: The Gearbox Solution Protecting Product and Processes

Industry Sector:

Food & Beverage



Application:

Fenner Dry-Fit Gearboxes



Problem

How long would it take your business to bounce back from a product recall? For one global cereal producer, it was a risk they couldn't afford to take. A single incident of contamination could have meant a massive product recall, brand damage, lost sales, or worse—an unlimited fine or even a prison sentence under health and safety legislation.

Their biggest concern? Oil leaks from direct-mounted geared motors.

Gearbox sealing was proving unreliable. Over time, oil was seeping into motor windings—causing premature failures—and leaking onto production floors, creating serious safety hazards. Replacing these motors in situ was a time-consuming, messy job, increasing downtime and costs.

Worse still, if any of that oil made its way near the food stream, the consequences could've been catastrophic.

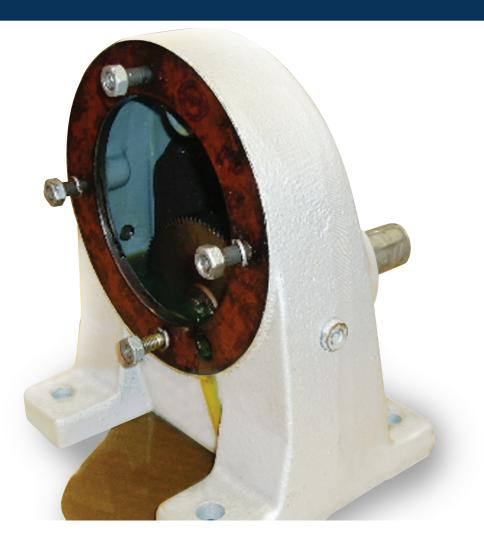
As part of a continuous improvement programme aimed at improving hygiene standards and reducing risks, the manufacturer turned to ERIKS.

Solution

ERIKS Application Engineers recommended a smarter alternative: standardising to a Fenner geared motor range, with a key feature - a dry-fit adaptor housing two seals between gearbox and motor.







This upgrade delivered game-changing benefits:

- Cleaner and safer: Double-sealed design dramatically reduced the chance of oil escaping, either onto floors or into sensitive production areas—supporting the customer's drive for higher hygiene standards.
- Minimal downtime: In the rare event of a motor failure, it could now be replaced easily and cleanly—just four screws and no need to dismantle the gearbox or risk spills, which significantly improved maintenance efficiency.
- Extended equipment life: With oil kept where it belonged, both gearboxes and motors operated more reliably and lasted longer, reducing the frequency and cost of unplanned repairs.
- **Streamlined spares:** Thanks to the IEC-standard frame, the customer reduced stockholding and had more flexibility in sourcing motors, making procurement quicker, simpler and more cost-effective.

For just a few hundred pounds, this cereal manufacturer avoided costly contamination risks, improved site cleanliness, enhanced worker safety, and slashed downtime.

A small change, with a big impact—exactly the kind of result their Continuous Improvement programme was designed to deliver.