

Application Profile

Subject: Improved Bearing Lubrication

Application: Multivac Packer

Manual Method: In the past the Multivac bearings (12) were lubricated weekly with a manual grease gun. The task was scheduled and performed by Maintenance Technicians but In some cases the task was not performed. This method created some excess lubrication and bearing failures resulting from missed lubrication points.

Automated Method: The Lincoln QLS 301 integrated system was installed early 2003. The system features a controller that schedules a metered amount of grease to each point every four hours. The controller also monitors the system operation and reservoir level. The visual indicators announce operating malfunctions. The reservoir requires filling every two months.

Return on Investment

Annual labor to lubricate bearings (one hr/week) (\$25.00 X 50 Weeks)	=	\$1,250
Annual replacement bearing cost (four failures) (4 bearings @ \$75 Ea)	=	\$ 300
Annual labor to replace bearings (four hrs ea) (4 hr X \$25/hr X 4 failure)	=	\$ 400
TOTAL COST	=	\$1,950

Annual savings - Labor to lubricate (\$1,250 X 90%)	=	\$1,125
Annual savings - Bearing replacement (\$300 X 75%)	=	\$ 225
Annual savings - Bearing labor (\$400 X 75%)	=	\$ 300
TOTAL SAVINGS	=	\$1,650

Investment - Lincoln QLS 301 system (Installed)	=	\$1,000
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INVESTMENT RETURNED IN 7 MONTHS



Multivac packers are used to package perishable food products for sale. The food is sealed in protective film with a high-speed thermoforming process prior to cartoning. Maintenance requirements include weekly grease lubrication. Over lubrication creates housekeeping issues. Missed lubrication points result in bearing failure.



The QLS-301 provides positive lubrication to 12 points. System operation and production are insured by a built in PC function.