

Food Packaging Made Easier Enidine Shock Absorber Application

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Situation Overview

A manufacturer of packaging systems makes a variety of machines that use a special metal clip as a means of closing a flexible bag. These machines package a wide variety of food products such as deli and sausage products, smoked meats and poultry.

One type of machine is specifically used to package poultry products. During operation, this machine needs to withstand the wet and messy environment of poultry packaging, including frequent wash down. As a market leader, the company needed this machine to operate at the fastest cycle rate in the industry. This means that each machine must process 15 to 18 birds per minute.

The machine was designed with shock absorbers installed in two locations. One was installed at the end of stroke position on a pneumatic rodless cylinder used for a shuttle operation. The other was installed at the end of cycle position as a positive stop for a pivot. Competitive shock absorbers could not withstand the high cycle rate or harsh environment.

Product Solution

The manufacturer came to ITT Enidine Inc. for a solution. A special nickel-plated OEM .5B was designed that would withstand the cycle rate, processing environment and frequent wash down. The OEM .5B has been redesigned to have a substantially higher capacity and a smaller envelope than its competitors. The manufacturer was pleased with the solution and the level of customer service they received from ITT Enidine Inc. and its local distributor.

Application Opportunity

The ITT Enidine Inc. nickel-plated solution continues to operate in processing plants today. Downtime due to component failure has been minimized and the packaging machines are operating at design conditions. As a result of this productivity increase, the company not only maintains its market leadership position, but also increases the sale of its metal clips annually.

Packaging machines (SIC 5084) are excellent candidates for shock absorber products, which are used to control air cylinders and help machines operate at their highest capacity.

