

Customer Profile

Large baked goods manufacturer in Alberta, Canada

Application

Tortilla oven chains

Challenge

Using a competitive high-temperature food grade chain lubricant, the bakery was experiencing frequent chain failures because of caramelization of the old lubricant and nozzle plugging. They also experienced fires due to raw material buildup on the chain combined with oil residue. The goal was to find one oil that could be used on all ovens at the bakery and reduce the potential risk of a fire.

LE Solution

Johann Montezuma with LE Canada recommended LE's Ovenworx® H1 Syn Chain Lubricant (4061) due to its high flash point, oxidation stability and reduced volatility at high temperatures. The change was implemented in November 2021. Ovenworx 4061 was formulated specifically to combat the demanding conditions present with oven chain applications. It is approved for incidental food contact and contains no artificial dyes, making it a good choice for bakeries and other food manufacturing plants. Equipment runs more cleanly and efficiently with Ovenworx 4061, which lubricates without the need for solids. (Lubricants with solids must be stirred to keep the solids distributed within the carrier. Solids create housekeeping issues by building up and creating gum and gunk around the application area, especially when over-applied.)

Ovenworx® is a registered trademark of Lubrication Engineers, Inc.

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Results

The bakery's maintenance manager said switching to the LE oil resolved the caramelization and nozzle-plugging issues, so they decided to use Ovenworx 4061 across the entire plant – on all the tortilla, bread and muffin ovens. (The other chains don't have the same high temperatures as the tortilla ovens, but the customer wanted to consolidate and use a single product.)

Without this conversion, the customer would have been changing out the chain every couple of years, costing the business hundreds of thousands of dollars each time. Three years later, the customer is continuing to use the product with no complaints.

