



Customer : Dairy cooperative
Product group : O-rings
Market : Food and pharma
Application : Circulation system

ERIKS CUTS MAINTENANCE COSTS FOR DAIRY COOPERATIVE

Right choice of O-rings reduces down time

CHALLENGE

A big Dutch dairy cooperative had weekly problems with leaks during maintenance of its alkali and acid tanks. The staff had their work cut out replacing broken O-rings in the circulation system, in a very inaccessible place. When leaks occurred, the whole plant had to be shut down.



SOLUTION

For a solution to the leaks, the cooperative turned to ERIKS BV the Netherlands.

In the past, when replacing O-rings there was a choice between two types: NBR and EPDM. These were used in a pump that is equipped with EPDM and Viton®. The O-rings were only suitable for certain parts of the system and also wore out very quickly. The two O-rings were hard to tell apart. 'All too often the wrong O-ring was used, and that could result in leaks within days, The problem had two causes. The O-rings were not resistant to the various cleaning agents (including concentrated 60% nitric acid and a 1.5% CIP mix of nitric acid and caustic soda), but also the staff was not properly trained to tell the different O-rings apart.

ERIKS found a solution that dealt with both problems simultaneously: a high and food-grade Kalrez® O-ring, which is resistant to both media. So now there is only one O-ring in use.

OTHER BENEFITS

- Cost reduction
- Sustainability

FURTHER COMMENTS

'The Kalrez® O-ring is made from the best, but most costly material available. But when you consider that it lasts at least a year, and that the plant doesn't have to be shut down all the time, the savings far outweigh the costs'.

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know-how makes the difference

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