

ChemTreat Increases Cooker Efficiency, Improving Can Appearance



Background

A large Midwestern food processing plant was experiencing issues with the appearance of their cans. The cans would frequently have various rust stains or white deposit coating when they emerged from the cookers. Rusted cans were unacceptable and could not be used. In addition, the frosted cans needed to be wiped down before returning back to the conveyors for labeling. Fixing these problems slowed down the production process as some cans needed to be discarded and others needed the extra step to be cleaned. Better cooker treatment could have prevented this waste and delay. Inaccurate chemical applications in these cookers with different levels of water tolerances caused more downtime and contributed to high treatment costs.

Solution

A collaborative effort from ChemTreat's commercial team, corporate staff, and laboratory scientists solved these issues. The first step was to combat the corrosion on the cans by applying a quadpolymer corrosion inhibitor. This solution yielded a 50% reduction in corrosion, dramatically improving the appearance of the cans. ChemTreat also applied a dispersant to address the water droplets on the cans and thereby reduced the frosting issue. Finally, ChemTreat installed a water treatment controller and chlorine analyzer to administer and monitor treatment products. As a result, control over the pH level, free chlorine residual, and inhibitor addition improved.

Results

Over the course of 3 years, the number of cans put on hold or discarded for this food processing Company was reduced by over 40,000 cans per year. This saved the plant over \$250K annually. In addition, treatment program costs were 15% less than the previous water treatment supplier and the maintenance team purchased fewer replacement parts for cookers, saving nearly \$150K annually. The Company was very pleased with ChemTreat's ability to quickly resolve the problems and continues to use ChemTreat's application expertise and responsive field engineers to ensure quality products.

Previous treatment program:



ChemTreat's treatment program:



