

# CASE STUDY: SAPPHIRE® ENDURE - OVERCOMING BEARING FAILURE

Performance you can trust

## LOCATION

Unilever, Crumlin

## CURRENT PRODUCT IN USE

Standard NLGI 2 bearing grease

## BACKGROUND

Bearing failures in the fryer were occurring after 3 Weeks. There were 15 bearings in the fryer, costing £82.56 each with a replacement period of up to 2 hours every time.

Total annual cost of replacing these bearings every 3 weeks was...£63,158.40

## CHALLENGE

Engineering Manager, Phil Harris, wanted to reduce costs on maintenance of the fryer. Both costs of replacement parts, labour costs and lost production time when the fryer was turned off for routine maintenance.

## THE ROCOL SOLUTION

ROCOL recommended SAPPHIRE® Endure - a perfluorinated polyether grease that functions effectively in aggressive environments subjected to extreme heat. As well as providing a better grease alternative, ROCOL recommended changing the bearings used. It would be possible to get extended bearing life versus current performance with a more cost-effective bearing, based on the high performance characteristics of SAPPHIRE Endure.

## WHY?

Since using SAPPHIRE Endure, each bearing now lasts 9 Weeks or longer. Unilever have been able to replace the current bearings with a more cost-effective option. The cost of the new bearings is £16.12 each - saving of £66.44 per bearing. The total cost savings have been estimated to be in the region of £20, 367 per year for bearings. Labour hours have been reduced from 34 hours to 12 hours and OOE has also increased due to an improvement in machine efficiency.

## CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Paul Harris, NPI Coordinator has been extremely happy and satisfied with the professional solution and support provided by ROCOL in achieving a successful outcome.