



Why Dry Lube Ltd does not use PTFE based lubricants

This document outlines the compelling reasons why Dry Lube Ltd do not use PTFE based lubricants.

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Dry Lube Ltd's range of lubricants is particulate free, colourless, NSF H1 approved and PTFE and silicon free. The majority of alternative line lubricants contain PTFE or silicon which Dry Lube does not use. The reasons why Dry Lube Ltd does not use PTFE lubricants are as follows:

1. Line Cleanliness

In alternative technologies, PTFE particles are suspended in an oil base. The mixture is constantly stirred and circulated to avoid the PTFE particles separating from the supporting oil. When the lubricant is applied to the line, the supporting oil evaporates leaving the PTFE particles on the conveyor belt. Typically, the PTFE creates a black deposit on the belt without regular cleaning. There have been instances at a major UK water bottler where this black deposit has attached to the base of the bottle generating customer complaints

2. Operations/application

PTFE is typically applied by slip plate. This method of application is inferior to using brushes as:

- a. Use of slip plate does not ensure full coverage of the lubricant across the full width of the conveyor belts. Achieving this critical requirement to line operations requires that the package spread the PTFE over the belt which is less reliable than using a brush.
- b. Use of slip plates does not enable the lubricant to penetrate between the belt and the wear-strip, this prevents the lubricant from reducing conveyor power consumption and does not extend the belt, both benefits which have been proven by use of Dry Lube brush technology.
- c. Application of PTFE lubricant by brush has been attempted, severe hygiene problems resulted as can be seen in the picture attached:



3. Health

The production of PTFE requires use of ammonium perfluorooctanoate, known as C-8, this chemical has been linked to organ damage and other health effects in tests on laboratory animals. The same chemical, C-8, was found in the blood of virtually every American, in much smaller but still detectable levels. The greatest concern about C-8 is that it may cause possible long-term harm to a generation that has grown up using PTFE products.

'In retrospect, this (use of PTFE) may seem like one of the biggest, if not the biggest, mistakes the chemical industry has ever made,' said Jane Houlihan, vice president for research at the Environmental Working Group, an activist organization.