

# Customer Testimonial



## Monolec® Multiplex Lubricant (4622)

*Kronotex USA – Barnwell, S.C.*

### *Fan Bearings*

- Maintained color and consistency much longer than previous grease
- Reduced the need for bearing maintenance from monthly to quarterly
- Eliminated bearing failures

#### *Customer Profile*

Kronotex USA constructed its first U.S. manufacturing facility in Barnwell, S.C., in 2005. This facility provides products for the company's customers in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Kronotex traces its roots to Lungotz, Austria, in 1897. Its factories are vertically integrated to manufacture virtually all of the component parts of the finished product. The South Carolina facility produces the popular laminate flooring for homes and businesses.

#### *Application*

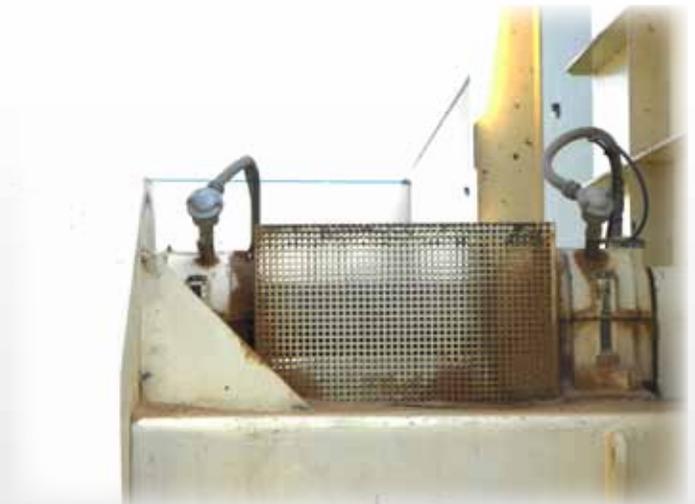
Kronotex's bag house operates four large fans to remove wood dust from the manufacturing process. Any unscheduled fan downtime could cost Kronotex \$170,000 per day in production losses.

#### *Challenge*

Keith Parker, plant maintenance manager, asked Lubrication Engineers in April 2009 for advice concerning the short grease life in the fan bearings. Bearings had to be serviced once a month. Every month the synthetic grease being used was black, dry and thick in consistency. This led to bearing failures and production downtime. The addition of an automatic grease lubrication system did not alleviate the problem.

#### *LE Solution*

Helmut von Schweinitz, LE consultant, considered the speed, temperature, load and bearing design when recommending Monolec Multiplex Lubricant (4622). Monolec 4622 is a lithium complex EP grease that has excellent pumpability,



good mechanical stability, high dropping point and corrosion resistance. It also incorporates Monolec, LE's proprietary wear-reducing additive that enhances the grease's wear resistance and fluid friction reduction.

In May 2009, Kronotex began using Monolec 4622.



*The Lubrication Reliability Source™*

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### **Results**

The bearings were monitored weekly, then bimonthly and finally monthly. Scotty Ray, maintenance team leader, noticed that the grease not only retained its red color but also its consistency, staying smooth and buttery. Today, bearing inspections are conducted on a quarterly basis, a significant reduction of manufacturing downtime. There have been no bearing failures since the introduction of LE's Monolec 4622.

*Thank you to Keith Parker, maintenance manager, Scotty Ray, maintenance team leader, and Helmut von Schweinitz, LE lubrication consultant (pictured), for providing the information used in this report.*



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Based on actual user experience. Individual results may vary. Not intended to supersede manufacturer specifications.

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