



## Quinplex® Food Machinery Lubricant (4024)

*Large Co-Operative Creamery – Tulare, Calif.*

*Benz Hilgers Model 8345 Butter Wrapper*

- *No lost production due to lubricant related components*
- *Reduced lubricant consumption from daily applications to once per week*

### **Customer Profile**

A large co-operative creamery located in Tulare, California, is a dairy products processing facility making powdered milk, milk, butter, cream cheese, yogurt and cottage cheese. This co-op facility processes over 15 million pounds of raw milk daily.

### **Application**

One of the pieces of equipment used in this process are the Benz Hilgers model 8345 butter wrappers. They mold, wrap and box one-lb. solid blocks of various brand names of butter. It produces at a rate of 60 to 80 one-lb. boxes per minute. Other models produce 1/4-lb. blocks of butter. This plant runs eight such units.

### **Challenge**

The Benz Hilgers butter wrapper has 135 zerk fittings to lubricate, and is a very complex and expensive piece of machinery. This co-op has four of these units. While using a commercial grade grease, lubrication requirements were extensive—one tube of grease for two bull gears and 135 zerk fittings. It also took one hour labor each day to do this maintenance. Even with this lubrication schedule, the co-op was still experiencing cam, bushing and bearing wear more rapidly than they felt was normal. They evaluated a number of conventional EP

(extreme pressure) greases, as well as specialty food grade lubricants, but could find no improvement in performance.

### **LE Solution**

In January of 1987, Mark Nickel, LE lubrication consultant, recommended Quinplex® Food Machinery Lubricant (4024) for this application. This lubricant is USDA authorized and rated H1 for the food processing industry.

### **Results**

Since converting to Quinplex 4024, 25 years ago, the units have had exceptional wear results with no lost production due to wear of lubricant related components. Lubricant consumption has also been reduced from daily applications to once per week. This is important because the Benz Hilgers wrapping machines operate 15 hours a day, five days a week. Using Quinplex 4024 has freed up four hours of labor per week for maintenance personnel to concentrate on other pressing maintenance needs, as well as saving four pounds of grease per week.

*Thank you to the personnel at this large co-operative creamery, and to Mark Nickel, LE lubrication consultant, for providing the information used in this report.*





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