



Almaplex® Industrial Lubricant (1275)

Adult Detention Center – New Century, Kans.

Bearing

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- Quieted noisy bearing
- Saved more than \$400 on replacement bearing

Customer Profile

The Adult Detention Center of the Fred Allenbrand Criminal Justice Complex, located in New Century, Kansas, is a minimum security jail for Johnson County, Kansas and surrounding cities. The complex was completed in 1998 as an addition to the Johnson County jail located in Olathe, approximately seven miles away.

Application

The Adult Detention Center has 11 air handler units that provide heat, ventilation and air conditioning throughout the building. The large fans on the air handlers are powered by Baldor electric motors that operate at over 1,700 rpm.

Challenge

The commercial grade grease they were using to lubricate the bearings on the fan shafts would not stay in place, causing the bearings to be noisy and fail prematurely. In one particular unit, according to Gregg Quackenbush, maintenance mechanic, he would grease the noisy bearing which would quiet it down for a short time and then it would become noisy again overnight. “Quack” as he’s called by his teammates, would grease the bearing daily only to have it noisy again the next day. He said you’d be able to hear it from the floor below.

LE Solution

The local LE lubrication consultant, recommended Almaplex® Industrial Lubricant (1275), assuring maintenance mechanics, Gregg Quackenbush and Barry Voelker, that Almaplex 1275 would quiet the bearing.



Troublesome fan bearing

As the LE consultant was leaving to get a tube of Almaplex 1275 for them to try, “Quack” rolled his eyes and said, “Yea, right! No way will another grease quiet down that bearing!”

Results

A new bearing had been ordered to replace the noisy one and while in the process of replacing it, they were having trouble removing the housing. After a number of



unsuccessful attempts to get the bearing out of the housing, Gregg and Barry purged the bearing of the commercial grease with Almaplex 1275 as a last resort.

That was nearly one year ago. As Gregg says, "1275 not only quieted that bearing down, but me too!"

The new bearing was returned saving Johnson County more than \$400.

Dave Bedford, facilities manager, says that his guys are extremely happy with Almaplex 1275 and are glad to get a case of tubes on order. Maintenance mechanics, Gregg and Barry, both said that they had their doubts in the beginning, but are both now sold on Almaplex 1275.

Other Products Used

- Wirelife™ Monolec® Penetrating Lubricant (2001)



Thank you to Dave Bedford, facilities manager, Ed Chrisman, senior maintenance mechanic, Gregg Quackenbush and Barry Voelker, maintenance mechanics, and to Steve Petrehn, LE lubrication consultant (pictured), for providing the information used in this report.



Gregg Quackenbush (Quack) with the troublesome fan bearing

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