

Case study: Beverage Bottling Industry

TOMBO™ No. 9014 SaniClean™ Gasket



Industry

Food & beverage industry

Customer

Bottling subsidiary of a world leading beverage company

Background

The customer produces a variety of drinks with a wide variety of flavours on the same production line. It was noticed that gaskets used in the production line were undergoing surface degradation and peel-off due to the repeated use of hot water, hot caustic liquid and chlorine water during the necessary sanitation processes deployed, which in turn resulted in lower sealing performance of the gasket, flavour/odour contamination and lower productivity.

Challenges faced

The customer noticed a gradual decline in productivity. One of the reasons was the long sanitation times between product runs, which consisted of multiple cycles of cleaning taking approximately 1.5 hours to complete. In turn, the sanitation process caused deterioration of gasket materials – with the weakened gasket causing flavour/odour contamination between pungent and non-pungent products. The customer was searching for a new gasket that would withstand their rigorous sanitation process with many SIP/CIP cycles, prevent contamination and increase productivity.

Solution and benefits

To overcome the production challenges faced, NICHIAS SaniClean™ Gasket was chosen. With a NICHIAS original EPDM rubber core grafted with PTFE for protection of its intended contact surface, NICHIAS Sani-

Clean™ gasket maintains the high-flexibility of rubber whilst delivering strong chemical and heat resistance in use. It can withstand multiple sanitation processes without degradation due to the protective PTFE layer on all surfaces that come into contact with liquids.

In a test trial, NICHIAS SaniClean™ passed the customer's strict flavour contamination tests measured by microorganism growth with high sanitation quality levels achieved. Furthermore, sanitation downtime was reduced by 44% by being able to omit 3 steps in the sanitation process. With the use of NICHIAS SaniClean™ the customer is now able to execute quick sanitation processes, increase productivity and run the bottling process without concerns of flavour/odour contamination.

For more information, please visit:
<https://nichias.co.jp/en>



SaniClean™ gasket

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Head Office

6-1, Hatchobori 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-8555, Japan
International Marketing and Sales Group
 Phone: 81-3-4413-1132 Fax: 81-3-3552-6108
 Web Site: <https://www.nichias.co.jp/>

Overseas Sales Companies

Indonesia

PT. NICHIAS SUNIJAYA

Sequis Tower Level 19 Suite 1&2,
 Jl. Jend Sudirman Kav. 71, Jakarta 12190, Indonesia
 Phone: +62-21- 2277-6101 Fax: +62-21- 2793-8033

Malaysia

NICHIAS SOUTHEAST ASIA SDN. BHD.

Suite A1102, 11th Floor, West Wing, Wisma Consplant 2,
 No. 7, Jalan SS 16/1, 47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.
 Phone: +60-3-5636-4067 Fax: +60-3-5636-4078

Singapore

NICHIAS SINGAPORE PTE. LTD.

25 International Business Park, #01-15/17 German Centre,
 Singapore 609916
 Phone: +65-6571-0830/0838 Fax: +65-6265-7681

Vietnam

NICHIAS VIETNAM CO., LTD

Room 709, Elite Business Center, 7th Floor Diamond Flower Building,
 48 Le Van Luong Street, Nhan Chinh Ward, Thanh Xuan District,
 Hanoi, Vietnam
 Phone: + 84-24-6664-3136 Fax: + 84-24-6666-8168

Thailand

NICHIAS (THAILAND) CO., LTD.

85 Moo 1, Wellgrow Industrial Estate T. Homsin, A. Bangpakong
 Chachoengsao 24180, Thailand
 Phone: +66-38-570-600 Fax: +66-38-570-601

THAI NICHIAS INTERNATIONAL CO., LTD.

Unit 1107, 11th Floor, AIA Capital Center
 89 Ratchadaphisek Road, Dindaeng, Bangkok 10400 Thailand
 Phone: +66-2-001-2060 Fax: +66-2-001-2062

China

NICHIAS (SHANGHAI) TRADING CO., LTD.

霓佳斯（上海）贸易有限公司
 Room 1701, THE PLACE, Tower A, No. 100 Zun Yi Road,
 Changning District, Shanghai, P.R.China Postcode 200051
 中国上海市长宁区遵义路100号虹桥南丰城A栋1701室 邮编200051
 Phone: +86-21-6236-1783 Fax: +86-21-6236-1781

NICHIAS (SHANGHAI) TRADING CO., LTD. Guangzhou Branch

霓佳斯（上海）贸易有限公司 广州分公司
 17F-G, Gold Sun Building, No.109 Tiyu West Road, Guangzhou,
 Guang Dong Province, 510620, P.R.China
 中国广东省广州市天河区体育西路109号高盛大厦17楼G室 邮编 510620
 Phone: +86-20-3879-1640 Fax: +86-20-3879-1647

NICHIAS (SHANGHAI) AUTOPARTS TRADING CO., LTD.

霓佳斯（上海）汽车零部件贸易有限公司
 Room 1702, THE PLACE, Tower A, No. 100 Zun Yi Road,
 Changning District, Shanghai, P.R.China Postcode 200051
 中国上海市长宁区遵义路100号虹桥南丰城A栋1702室 邮编200051
 Phone: +86-21-6236-2668 Fax: +86-21-6236-2667

Overseas Construction Companies

Malaysia

NICHIAS SOUTHEAST ASIA SDN. BHD.

Suite A1102, 11th Floor, West Wing, Wisma Consplant 2,
 No. 7, Jalan SS 16/1, 47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.
 Phone: +60-3-5636-4067 Fax: +60-3-5636-4078

Thailand

THAI-NICHIAS ENGINEERING CO., LTD.

45 Huaypong-Nongbon Road, Huaypong, Muang Rayong,
 Rayong Province 21150, Thailand
 Phone: +66-38-682-242 Fax: +66-38-691-156

Overseas Factories

Indonesia

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PT. NICHIAS METALWORKS INDONESIA

Malaysia

NICHIAS FGS SDN. BHD.

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