

# 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 SAN-

ICLEAN™ 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://www.nichias.co.jp>



SANICLEAN™ Gasket

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