VIBRA SCREW CASE HISTORY

Bin Activators Assure Smooth Handling of Vegetables

Customer

Lakeside Packing Company, Manitowoc, Wisc. Packers of beans, beets, carrots, and mixed vegetables.

Problem

Lakeside's Manitowoc plant stores vegetables for processing in fiberglass storage bins, 3 ft. diameter by 12 ft. high. The bins are filled by vibrating tables. Their former system employed gravity flow from storage to fillers which run at a relatively high speed of 300 to 500 cans a minute. This system could not be depended on to deliver product with the speed and consistency required; it was subject to bridging and plugging and had limited capacity. Downtime was a frequent problem.

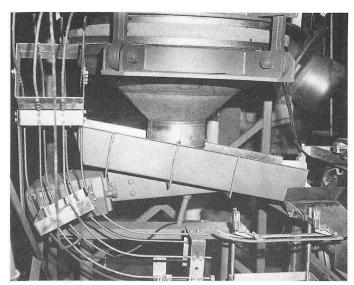
Solution

3 Vibra Screw Bin Activators, 3 ft. diameter, 304 stainless steel construction, and sanitary construction.

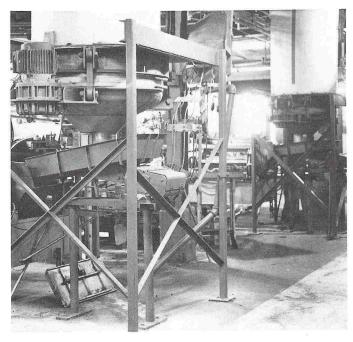
The company flexibly mounted Vibra Screw Bin Activators to the bottom of its storage bins by preassembled mounting rings. The Bin Activator is a device which employs controlled vibration to move material with poor flow characteristics out of storage. An oil-lubricated gyrator provides powerful horizontal thrusts which vibrate the Bin Activator, and the material in the bin, but not the bin itself. A curved integral baffle directs the vibrations far up into the material in the bin, keeping it mobile and free-flowing, and eliminating bridging and plugging. Two of the Bin Activators have 10 in. discharge outlets, the other a 9 in. outlet. With the new system, product now flows uninterruptedly from the Bin Activator outlets to pan feeders and then to the fillers.

Results

Lakeside Packing Company now has no difficulty in delivering product to the fillers at a steady, consistent rate. Downtime caused by plugging and bridging in the storage bins has been eliminated, with the result that smooth handling is now assured.



Downtime caused by plugging and bridging in the storage bins has been eliminated by the Vibra Screw Bin Activators, with the result that smooth handling is now assured.



With Lakeside Packing's new system, product now flows uninterruptedly from the Bin Activator outlets to pan feeders and then to the fillers.