



FilterTalk

FRESH NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM FILTERCORP INTERNATIONAL LTD • AUTUMN 2007

The World's first clampless "Snap In" Flexible Connectors



From this...

to this...

and this...

to this...

Hose clamped connectors and their inherent installation, safety, product build-up and durability problems have been superseded by Filtercorp's new BFM™ system.

Now patented internationally after 12 months development and exhaustive testing, the new system allows tool free connector changing simply by flexing and "snapping in" connectors with your hands.

Designer Blair McPheat says there's no longer the risk of painful injury associated with using screw drivers or other tools needed with traditional hose clamps.

"The BFM™ fitting system eliminates the need for such clamps," he says. "It seals tighter under high pressure rather than giving way and rupturing, as clamps can.

Blair demonstrates how easily connectors are installed – snapping them in and out like child's play.

They can only ever fit correctly, he stresses, because of standardised sizes in 50mm increments.

The design eliminates product build up between the flexible connector and the side wall of the spigot. And it's therefore more hygienic for food processing applications.

BFM™ fittings and spigots are now used by major manufacturers and processors here and overseas. Locally they include Sanitarium Health Food, Nu-Con, and various Fonterra sites around New Zealand.

For more information, visit our website: www.BFMfitting.com

Cutting edge problem solved

Like most metal cutting processes, plasma cutting steel for manufacturing can be an uncomfortable process for workers because of the fine powder dust and smoke it emits.

Alert Engineering in Auckland's Mt. Wellington used a scrubber filtration system for the past three or four years. But it was messy, and solved only 85 percent of the problem, according to owner Alan Lewis. "We needed as close to a 100 percent solution as possible."

Filtercorp developed a solution - a compact, side entry, dust extraction unit fitted with 24 off Pleated Elements side mounted for easy maintenance. No tools are required whatsoever to change the filter elements.

The collector, hoods and ducting are designed to extract welding fume from the individual work stations within Alert's 30,000 sq ft building.

Faced with space constraints, Filtercorp cleverly designed the inlet to be at the top (out of the way) and the outlet to be at the bottom by the fan (as illustrated). This enabled the unit to be installed tight against the wall so the driveway immediately adjacent to the collector was kept clear.

"It's a more effective and environmentally friendly system," Alan Lewis says. His company, established 20 years ago, manufactures diverse products – from scrap metal recycling machinery, to rubbish and gantry trucks, hydraulic and motor sport components and more. Visit www.engalert.co.nz





Forres' Feedback

Exciting times are afoot at Filtercorp with the introduction of the BFM™ fitting. There is

nothing like a new piece of technology to rejuvenate the whole team. Some of the interesting side issues started when Blair came into my office and announced that “we are going to conduct explosion testing of the fitting”!! Yeah right. I had visions of the back end of our factory disappearing while Blair experimented on what size bomb he wanted to use. Common sense prevailed and we contracted a pyrotechnic specialist from West Auckland who is licensed to perform such spectacular tests. Initial results have been amazing. Further testing will be carried out over the next two weeks and documented by Industrial Research Ltd who are internationally accredited.

We all look forward to the rest of 2007 and the challenges it will present to the brains trust at Filtercorp.

Call in and see us sometime.

Forres...

FILTERPEOPLE

MILES OF SMILES

Miles Henderson has the perfect job as he studies for a marketing degree. As our customer service person, he supports our sales and marketing team, liaises with internal staff, and ensures customers are happy and receive orders on time.

He stepped into the role about 2 years ago – several years after joining Filtercorp in despatch. Like most Kiwis, Christchurch born Miles also did his OE stint – cutting short university studies to spend several years in the UK, Middle East, South Africa, and later a year with his new wife, Katrina, in Australia.

Now with three sons, Tayne aged 1, Kyran 4 and Zhan 11, two of whom he coaches at soccer (he’s also a committee member of the Birkenhead Soccer Club), Miles has less time for study – a paper a semester. But given another two years, he hopes to complete studies. “I like the variety of the role at Filtercorp,” he says, “and working with our customers and the team here.”

We like having you here too, Miles.



Export Food security wrapped up



Huhtamaki team member Ewan Thompson is impressed with the new filters.

Auckland’s high rainfall and hot, humid climate breeds potential contamination hazards for the food processing industry.

Bio-security is a priority - involving rigorous processes to ensure there is no foreign contamination according to Huhtamaki NZ Sales

and Marketing Manager Bernie Roberts.

Huhtamaki manufactures printed and clear packaging for Fonterra and other exporters at a plant roughly the size of two football fields at Auckland’s New Lynn. Until mid way through last year, the company relied on mesh filtration for environmental management – effective and acceptable at the time.

But Fonterra suggested a more effective way – recommending Filtercorp to provide a solution to meet stringent EU certification and NZFDA standards.

A recently installed Filtercorp midgie pocket bag system has seen a marked improvement in environmental security, Bernie Roberts says.

“It’s been a good move,” he says, “reinforcing Fonterra’s confidence in us, and improving our quality control.”

“Fresh air is pulled into the factory; the filter bags exclude everything else.”

* The Huhtamaki installation is the latest in a series of Filtercorp midgie pocket bag installations at various Fonterra and other food processing plants throughout New Zealand.

New Auckland and Northland Sales Team.



Trent Brimble joined Filtercorp in September following an extensive engineering background in New Zealand and overseas – with a break to “do something different” as national sales manager for a leading entertainment organisation. He was also involved in the recording industry, working with Crowded House. Now, as an “expensive hobby,” he has his own record label. Trent has an AUT Diploma in Sales & Marketing; a Trade Certificate in Fitting, Turning and Machining, and served his apprenticeship as a Fitter and Turner at HMNZ Dock Yard.



Neville Twist left New Zealand in his late teens and the travel bug took him to over 60 countries. Neville was Operations Manager with Ginseng NZ Ltd in Tauranga prior to being lured back to Auckland and joined Filtercorp last year. He was previously Sales Manager for industrial fabrics supplier Permathene Limited in Auckland for 7 years.

Life is busy for Neville whose after hours interests apart from wife Trish and their adult family, include golf, boating, fishing, tennis, skiing, and a generally active life outdoors, as well as new music and theatre.

Pike returns to the water

Graham Pike whom you may recall was a keen off road 4WD rally driver now spends more time power boat racing! Graham, a former automotive engineer and service manager, worked in the boating industry in another life and joined Filtercorp 6 years ago to become Senior Sales Engineer. Last September he

stepped into Blair McPheat's role as National Sales Manager.



NEWS FROM THE **FILTERWORLD**



CLEAN OPERATION...

McAlpine Hussmann, Auckland, supplied sealed clean air systems for the operating theatres at Tauranga's new Norfolk Southern Cross Hospital. In each theatre, air is directed

through a 3m x 3m canopy towards the floor, ensuring the operating area (and the air) are contaminant free. The canopies each incorporate a bank of Filtercorp Hepa filters.

FISH TALES... Southern Aquarium in Cathedral Square is a popular attraction for locals and those visiting Christchurch. And to ensure those inside benefit from fresh air, Filtercorp supplies atmospheric filtration for visitors, and 2 stage filtration of the oxygenation system for fish. We also recently supplied a filtration system for an Auckland customer's large garden pond whose valuable fish were dying in their hundreds...prompting the question from one wag, “when will you get into whale rescue?”

LOVIN' IT... One of the reasons it's so comfortable in a McDonald's is the air conditioning. Filtercorp supplies filtration elements to McDonald's for their air conditioning system installations throughout the country.



IT MUST BE... Vegetable processing needs a diet of clean air. At Heinz Watties, Hornby, Christchurch, Filtercorp service technicians regularly service and maintain the large fan air intakes and filtration systems aerating the company's vegetable dehydration plant.



Food for thought

The cheese on your next pizza may well have been diced or grated by Fonterra. Its Panmure plant was processing about 70 tonnes a day we learned recently. Ten kilogram blocks were hand fed into dicing and grating equipment before being instantly frozen with liquid nitrogen for shipping around the world as well as the country.

“It takes pretty grunty machines,” Fonterra Engineering Manager Craig Rowland told us, mentioning that the plant was scheduled to be replaced by a fully automated plant at Eltham. It also required a clean, bug and contamination-free atmosphere – fanned into the processing area via a Filtercorp stainless steel ventilation intake whose filtration media requires checking only once a year. The system replaced old filter housing that leaked and could have allowed potential contamination.



Taming the Cookie Monster

At leading biscuit-maker Griffins, one of the challenges leading up to the mixing and baking process is the conveying of flour and sugar from silos to the mixers. It's carried out pneumatically – air pumped along some 200m of ring main from four 30 tonne flour and one 40 tonne sugar silos. The method is efficient but flour generates dust that needs to be collected before the air is expelled back into the atmosphere. A build-up could pose an explosive risk.

A Filtercorp sonic silo exhaust system recently replaced the old style system that was adding to dust and mechanical problems. Now the flour dust is efficiently collected and returned to the silos. The air is expelled fresh back into the atmosphere. And oblivious to what's involved, the rest of us just happily munch on our biscuits...

Happy Feat...



While the impressive sights and sounds of Auckland's Kelly Tarlton's Antarctic Encounter and Underwater World may take some people's breath away, the atmosphere in the underground aquarium certainly won't.

Almost since Kelly Tarlton's first opened 22 years ago, Filtercorp has supplied general ventilation pre filters and pocket filters to ensure that the air breathed by hundreds of thousands of visitors a year is as pure as it can be. HEPA filters also help purify air down to 0.3 of a micron for the penguin enclosure.

The aquarium draws its air supply down from the street level near Auckland's Okahu Bay and pumps it through the maze of corridors and tunnels that host visitors. So if you're visiting or live in Auckland, for an experience that's truly a breath of fresh air...Kelly Tarlton's is a must.



www.filtercorp.co.nz

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Thought for the Season

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.

