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USER REPORT

COMPANY: WARBURTONS BURNLEY
ENGINEER: MARTIN LUPTON
APPLICATION: BP Mark 4 Turbo Radiant Oven
PRODUCT: Perfluid GM

In 2002 work was undertaken on the oven which resulted in the feed-end lubrication access being guarded making the only access to lubricate the chain from underneath the front or the back of the oven. The H&S Manager considered it unsafe and requested that extra manpower be used so that the weekly lubrication could be accomplished safely.

Although the Engineer wanted to use Fomblin CL1800F to extend the lubrication intervals, measured chain temperatures of 290C prevented its use.

Instead, PFL were asked to develop a product which could be applied by autolube whilst in production with minimal fume and odour. The product also needed to be able to penetrate the through to the pin and bush but not to build up on the chain over time.

After testing some different chemistries which proved unsuitable a development product PerFluid GM was supplied and tested in August 2005. In November 2005 the product was applied by autolube with the oven operating continuously on a 24hr 6.5 day operation since then. In October 2006 the autolube frequency was reduced to every 8 hrs without any negative effects and the lubricant usage is now about 15 litres per month.

Recent inspection of the chain has shown no graphite build up and the chain articulates and runs quietly and smoothly. The Oven has also run for 21 days with out shutdown, something which was impossible using the Cuperol.

Apart from the safety issue, when compared to the cost of the Cuperol and the manpower (3 men for 1 hr every Saturday) after 2 years the autolube system plus the cost of the Perfluid GM works out at breakeven.

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