

FORSTA FILTERS

Self Cleaning Water Filters

CASE STUDY: MICHELSEN PACKAGING

Forsta installs a self-cleaning system at a 70-year-old company specializing in protective packaging materials for fresh fruits and vegetables.



In late 2011 Michelsen Packaging Co. in Yakima Washington had just installed a 125 hp water-cooled air compressor that required cooling water in order to prevent overheating. According to Michelsen's R & D engineer, Carey Bruskland, the application required the company to cool the heated water coming from the compressor through a set of heat exchangers. The cooling water on the other side of the exchangers contained fine paper fibers and biological growth (which thrives in the heat generated by the vacuum pumps), both of which needed to be removed to ensure that the heat exchanger wouldn't plug.

Bruskland explained, "We needed two, high-quality, durable filter units which would be self-cleaning and easy to maintain. They needed to be made from noncorrosive materials to withstand harsh chemicals, and be able to supply the 100gpm flow to our heat exchangers throughout the cleaning cycle."

Brusland and his team selected two of the Forsta A2-90 model filters equipped with 100 micron, stainless steel screens. This selection would protect the heat exchangers, which cool the water for the water-cooled air compressor. The selection came following a rigorous analysis of Forsta's technology including system integration, internal components and backwash mechanism.



After contacting a number of different manufacturers, Michelsen chose Forsta because the company provided, "High quality units at a lower cost than the other manufactures." Brusland said, " We also really liked the fact that the filter operates on inlet water pressure alone and does not require an external source of water for the very short backwash."

"This was our first filter unit of this type, so we had many questions," Brusland added. "The Forsta engineers were very helpful and thorough as we were looking at the different types of filter units and choosing the unit which best fit our needs." He also noted that the Forsta engineers "were always very courteous and professional. We were always able to get in contact with them and they always answered our questions. They were very helpful not only before we purchased the units but also as we were assembling them. They followed up and contacted us after installation to make sure everything was working properly."

When asked if he would recommend a Forsta self-cleaning filter to others with similar applications Bruskland replied, "Very highly."

For more information on Forsta self-cleaning filters, visit www.forstafilters.com