

Application Note

Improving Baked and Processed Foods Bulk Hot Oil / Shortening Inventory Information

Problem:

Bulk hot oil or shortening inventory information is sporadic. It presently requires sending someone to the top of the tank, opening up the vessel and dropping in a tape. If frequent readings are required, someone is pulled off other jobs to tape the vessels. Often times, especially during bad weather, the current level is guessed at based on estimated usage since the last delivery ticket. Other technologies used are floats on retractable cables prone to gumming up and pressure/differential pressure cells, which are prone to drifting and requiring calibration. If usage is greater than expected or the wrong readings used, shortages occur shutting down the line. Material then needs to be expedited in, not only at increasing costs for handling, but many people are involved in walking paperwork through, calling, rescheduling operators and receiving materials to keep the plant in production.

Solution:

Continuous level information using KM ultra-*wave*[™] controller and Sonocell ultrasonic transducers. Information can be displayed locally, transmitted to PLC/PC control systems using KM digital interfaces or accessed via the Internet using a KM ORB-enabled system.

Benefits:

- Repeatable, continuous level readings in which to base current inventory and material demands.
- Non-contact eliminates material contamination risks.
- · Workers not climbing tall vessels, decreasing workers comp and accident claims.
- Material not exposed to weather because the tank does not need to be opened to measure inventory and eliminate risk of dropping something into tank.
- Easy to retrofit on existing vessels and same controller can be used for bulk flour silos saving on hardware/installation costs.

WORLD HEADQUARTERS

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