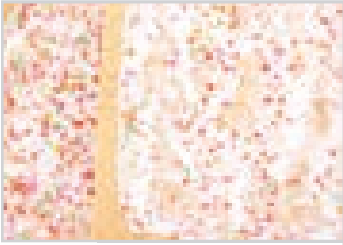


Bakery Saves More than US\$70,000 Annually with New Spray System



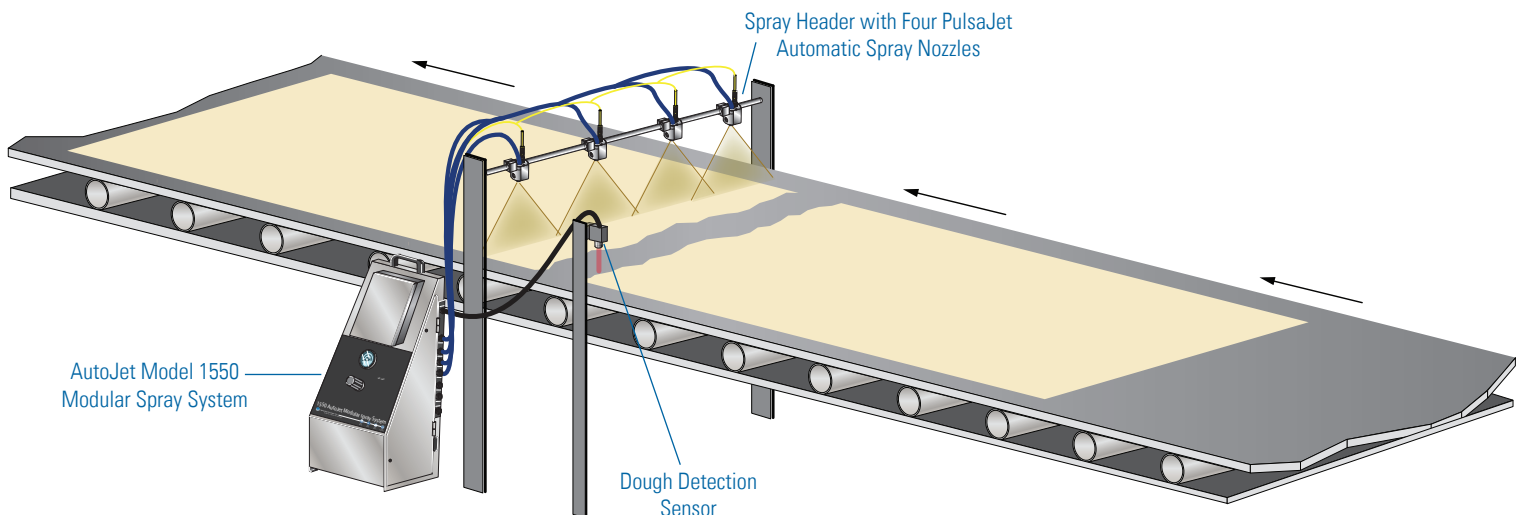
Problem:

A private label manufacturer of baked goods needed to apply a light coating of water and corn syrup to a sheet of dough on a moving conveyor. The solution wets the surface of the dough and acts as an adhesive for dried granular flavorings that are applied in later processing.

The manufacturer first used a spray system with hydraulic flat spray nozzles controlled by manual metering valves. Coverage was not uniform across the width of the dough sheet. Variations in line speed and breaks in the dough extrusion resulted in wasted coating since the system was controlled manually. A second system using air atomizing nozzles was also tried. It did provide a uniform coating on the dough but resulted in excessive overspray and required the installation of a maintenance-intensive mist collector.

Solution:

Spraying Systems Co.'s solution uses PulsaJet® automatic spray nozzles controlled by an AutoJet® Model 1550 Modular Spray System. The easy-to-use Modular Spray System is equipped with an air-operated double diaphragm pump. The system is triggered by an external sensor that detects the presence of the dough. Precision Spray Control (PSC) is used to apply the corn syrup solution at very low flow rates providing the lightweight coverage required. Controlling the flow using PSC rather than by adjusting liquid pressure allows the nozzles to maintain optimal drop size and spray angle and ensures uniform coverage of the coating across the width of the dough. PSC also allows the system to automatically maintain the proper application rate despite changes in line speed.





Bakery Saves More than US\$70,000 Annually with New Spray System – Continued

Results:

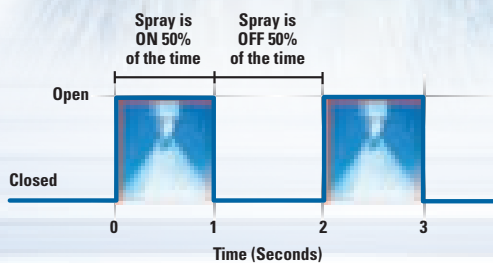
The AutoJet® Modular Spray System and PulsaJet® nozzles maintain a uniform coating of water and corn syrup on the dough despite changes in line speed. Using hydraulic PulsaJet nozzles and PSC instead of air atomizing nozzles has eliminated the misting problem and need for the mist collection system. In addition, the transfer efficiency of the corn syrup solution has improved dramatically, reducing consumption of the solution by 60%. All these factors along with increased production have resulted in monthly savings of more than US\$6,000 and a payback period of less than two months for the spray system.

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE SYSTEM

Four PulsaJet nozzles, triggered by a photoelectric sensor that detects the presence of the dough sheet, cover the width of the dough with a uniform spray.

AutoJet Modular Spray System provides easy control of nozzles and cycle times up to 10,000 cycles per minute.

Precision Spray Control



Precision Spray Control (PSC) involves turning nozzles on and off very quickly to control flow rate. This cycling is so fast that the flow often appears to be constant. With traditional nozzles, flow rate adjustments require a change in liquid pressure, which also changes the nozzle's spray angle/coverage and drop size. With PSC, pressure remains constant enabling flow rate changes without changes in spray performance. PSC requires the use of electrically-actuated spray nozzles and an AutoJet spray controller.



Spraying Systems Co.®
Experts in Spray Technology

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Case Study No. 149A Printed in the U.S.A. ©Spraying Systems Co. 2014