



AIM

Application for
Industrial
Markets

New Dispense System Significantly Increases Production on Caulk Application



Customer

Marvel Industries

Application

Caulking Appliances

Objective

Company wanted to automate hand
caulking application.

Graco Solution

Graco Check-Mate™ 450 ram
mounted dispense system with
Ultra-Lite™ 6000 flow gun

Results

Significant reduction in application
time; bulk material savings; and
more consistent application

History

Marvel Industries is located in Richmond, Indiana and manufactures small refrigerators and freezers for upscale household, commercial, industrial, medical and governmental markets.

Problem

When assembling ice maker units, a Marvel operator manually applied an oil-based caulking compound, metallic colored paste (Alumilastic-C-5030-011) with a putty knife. The operator dipped the putty knife into a one-gallon can of material and spread it onto the bottom surface of the ice maker (like icing a cake). The extremely thick material was hard to dig out of the container and harder to apply evenly. This was a very messy, dirty process.

It took approximately three minutes per unit to apply the material. Operators made 60 units per day during one shift. Only one operator applied the material. The difficulty and length of the application process caused operator fatigue. They needed equipment that could automate this process.

Graco Solution

After consulting their local Graco distributor, Marvel purchased Graco's Check-Mate™ 450 fluid pump ram unit (part no. 231-115) with an Ultra-Lite™ 6000 pistol grip flow gun (part no. 235-628) and z-swivel (part no. 207-948). The distributor customized the gun nozzle

which allowed the operator to perform the operation in one pass.

Benefits

Since installing the new equipment, the Marvel operator has reduced the time spent on coating each piece from three minutes to 7-10 seconds. Using the Ultra-Lite gun was much easier on the operator since it took less time and the light-weight gun was easy to use.

In addition, the company was able to purchase material in five-gallon pails instead of one-gallon cans. This reduced manufacturing costs since the five-gallon pails were approximately 10-15% lower priced. The five-gallon pails allowed less waste of material than the open one-gallon cans. The Graco unit sealed the five-gallon pail until it was empty. There was no drying out, no spillage and the work area was much cleaner.

Marvel's products now have an improved finish quality due to a more consistent coating being applied. This has resulted in a significant decrease in field failures and fixes. •

For additional product information or the name of a local authorized Graco distributor, call toll free 800-367-4023 in the U.S.A.

In Minnesota: 612-623-6743

In Europe: (32) 89 770 700

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Printed in the USA

