



Kistler-Morse®

Direct Support Products

case history

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Market: Office Products Industry

CUSTOMER

The Fasson Roll Division's Fort Wayne, Indiana, plant. The plant is owned by Avery Denison Corp., Pasadena, Cal., a leader in the office products industry. The Fort Wayne facility makes label stock and stickers by coating adhesives to paper.

PROBLEM

In 1988, the plant undertook a major upgrade and wanted to improve monitoring of inventory levels, consistent with a philosophy of just-in-time inventory. Engineers wanted to monitor raw liquid materials for making adhesives, such as resins and water-based emulsions kept at room temperature. "With our adhesives, it makes for a pretty tough environment for any monitoring device," says Doug Pingel, process engineering manager. "We had problems with some systems (particularly probes) that went inside the tank, because the adhesive builds up like a glue and fouls the instrument. We went looking for a system that wouldn't come into contact with the material."

APPLICATION

Fasson Roll installed Kistler-Morse Load Disc transducers on their large tanks, and used Load Block transducers for their small tanks. Altogether, the

facility has 21 above-ground storage tanks (both carbon steel and stainless steel) ranging in size from 5,500 gallons to 15,000 gallons. Kistler-Morse instruments went on each tank's four legs.

BENEFIT

"We haven't had many problems and the service has been very good," Pingel says. "We had one tank that was located next to a door that was often open, so we had some problems with that one because of temperature fluctuations, but we got that straightened out. I have to admit, I wish the accuracy was a little bit better (4.5% on 130,000 lbs. of material), but considering the difficulty of monitoring the product we have, I'm satisfied."

CONCLUSION

"Now we're able to keep our inventory to a minimum, because we can track tank levels with our computer on a daily basis," Pingel says. "Those tank levels dictate to us when we need to order more material, and it's used by the accounting department to see how much, if any, is wasted during production."