

seepex pumps improve control of cider quality.

The process of making different cider varieties depends on accurate dosing of ingredients to produce the correct flavour and colour profile for each brand.

One of the worlds largest cider maker produces 65 % of the cider consumed in the UK. When this cider-producing company wanted to make improvements to the quality of their dosing and control they turned to seepex for a solution.

The starting situation

Diaphragm dosing pumps were used to pump minor ingredients which adjust colour, sweetness and acidity in the cider. These pumps had limitations; control from the flow meters in line raised the alarm if the flow rate was outside set tolerances but there was no feedback to correct via pump speed.

In addition, maintenance was costly with a major overhaul needed whenever performance deteriorated, and a lengthy recalibration process followed maintenance due to the flow characteristics of the pump.

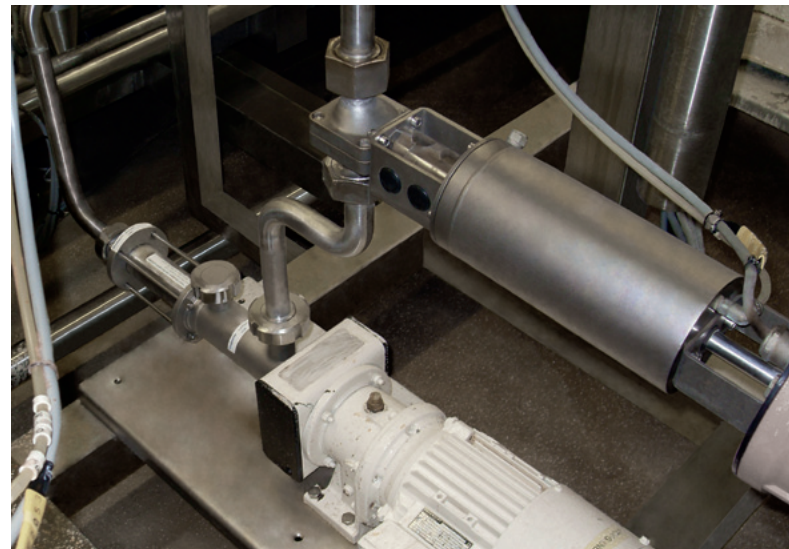
Thus, the customer was looking for a pump with an accurate pulse free flow, variable flow rates relative to pump speed, control by in line flow control, and easy maintenance with simple recalibration.

The solution

A seepex progressive cavity pump from the product group D (dosing pumps) were chosen due to their pulse free nature which therefore do not require expensive pulsation dampeners.

The MDC range pumps provided are fully hygienic and have integral variable speed drives controlled by feedback from the flow meters in the discharge pipe-work.

The first phase of the project was to replace diaphragm dosing pumps on two of the added ingredients.



One of the two seepex MDC range pumps which replaces the diaphragm dosing pumps

The benefit

Compared to the “conventional dosing pump” the seepex pump has no ball valves which can have a tendency to clog with products that contain solids which in turn reduces the metering accuracy and increases maintenance.

The replacement has been completely successful with improved flow control giving consistent high quality product. Furthermore, downtime has been reduced due to feedback speed and dosing control.

Maintenance has proved simple and cost effective with stators being replaced only once in two years of operation. Recalibration of the pump following maintenance is easy with the flow rate being directly proportional to the speed of the pump.

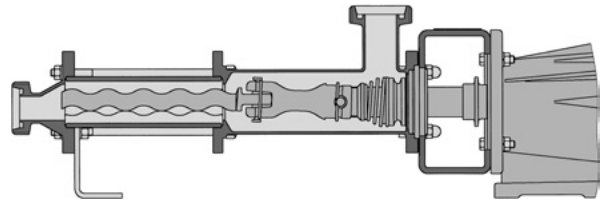
All in all, seepex dosing pumps have simplified and improved dosing at the cider mill. The pumps have been so successful that the customer has a proposal to replace all existing dosing pumps with the seepex pumps of the MDC range.

Key Facts

- Accurate pulse free dosing
- Variable pump speed controls flow rate
- Easy, cost effective maintenance
- Simple recalibration

Significant Cost Savings

- Labour cost saving on calibration
- Downtime reduced by feedback control
- Spares and maintenance costs reduced



Installed Pump Type

- Range MDC

And what can we get flowing for you? Your nearest contact: