Investigating Sifter Maintenance
Western Canadian Dist.
Harrison Hot Springs, BC
Jeff Seeger
My name is Friday
Dan Aykroyd
famous Canadian actor
Played Jack Webb (Friday) in the movie Dragnet in 1987.
Potential Hazards

- Staples hold backwire in place.
- They are a greater potential hazard than the staples that hold the screens on top.
Door bolt placed through the front rib
Top carrier was held in place with washer and nut. Right above the product outlet slots.

Old style

New style
Hold down shaft

Old style with jam nuts

New Style
Infestation found under side chamfer strip
Strings from sieve plush in product zone
Stainless steel lining peeling

- Staples could fall out into product zone.
- Good place for infestation to hide.
Build up on Press top

- Again good place for infestation to hide.
Inlet catch basket

Is used to prevent large items from contaminating product. However in this case.....
Holes in Lining
Great place for infestation to live
This section just had brand new sieves put in it! They had to buy a whole new stack again & Ribs due to the press top left up!
This was once a 8 way bottom Distributor!
New vs Neglected
Send in your potential quality hazard pictures to us.

- Remember the names will be changed to protect the innocent. Or guilty as the case may be.
Sifter Maintenance

1. Keep bolts tight.
2. Keep sieves tight.
Keep bolts tight.

- Drive bolts 150 ft-lbs
- Reed clamps 75 ft-lbs
- Box bolts 50 (Flush) or 75 (rec) ft-lbs
- Press-tops ~ 25 ft-lbs
Re-torque bolts

• New installs- check bolts weekly until all shrinkage is taken-up.
• Tightening a little frequently is better than a lot infrequently.
• Re-check drive bolts esp.
• Re-check after heat sterilization if that is what your plant does rather than fumigate
Sifter Hardware

- Hand tighten the tail nuts.
- Take care of broken door bolts.
- Just snug the door rod.
- Make sure the door rods are used.
Lubrication & Bearing Maintenance

• Keep it closed & clean
• 2 bearings
• 2 spirals & shafts
• 4 weight bucket collars
Grease

• We recommend Mobilux EP 2 grade
• Service your sifter every 60 days
• Pressure fill each bearing lube pt until a slight amount of grease purges from the top seals of both the upper and lower bearing
HS bearing top or bottom by flipping seals.

- Top seal is installed non-conventionally
- With the bearings installed the spring on the seals will all be facing up
- HS bearings can be rebuilt if the housing has not been scored.
Tru-Balance Drive

- 8 Pillow block bearings
- 2 Tie bar bearings

Other areas depending on the machine type.
Door with Wedge

• Wedge allows space for easy sieve removal.
• Wedge aligns sieves and forces them to the left.
• Door pushes sieves to back.
• Snug door 1st, then lower press top.
• Snug door rod.
Wood reed spacers

- Reed spacers should be placed approx. 12” above the top of the sifter
- If the reeds are over 14 ft long use two spacers equally spaced 1/3 of the way
Press Top & Seal

- Insure blocking is correct for flow.
- Insure chamfer is correct for type of sieve.
R&P Press top

- Insure the R&P operators are in good working condition
- Gasket condition
  - Top to sieve
  - Between top & seal
Pneumatic Compression

- Uniform, constant compression:
  - Reduces leakage
  - Reduces sieve & gasket wear.
- Quicker & easier access
Bottom Distributors
Inlets & Outlets

• Flexible sleeves
  – Make sure they are not installed too tight nor twisted.
  – Verify alignment.

• Minimum distance between the end of the transition and the top of the spout or floor stub is 7”. Therefore our standard length of sock is generally 12”.
Connecting sleeves

• For HS sifters: We recommend worm gear clamp on the sifter transition to attach the sock and use a thumbblock clamp to attached the sock on the spout or floor stub.

• For TB sifters: We recommend hose clamps on both the sifter and spouting.
Aluminum Lift Out Tray

Lift Out Tray Sieve
Aluminum Lift out tray options

Trays can be furnished for:
- Hand stretched and stapled-on screen attachment
- Mechanically stretched for glued-on attachment
HDPE Plastic Nova Sieve
Modular TB 421
QA Series –
Gravity Flow Sifter
Remove Draw Rods

Activate Pneumatics

QA Series – In-Line Sifter
Previous SS Sieve Silicone Adhesive & Silicone Gaskets

QA Series – Snap-on Neoprene Gaskets