







Challenges of powder blending in the food industry: homogeneity, cleaning and hygienic design

Powder Handling and Granular Flow: 24th June 2021

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AGENDA

- Brief overview of Lodige
- Cleaning Challenges in Food Industry
- Dry Cleaning (Excursus)
- Terms of Wet Cleaning Systems
- WIP-Process in horizontal Ploughshare® Mixers
- Test Methods for Determining the Cleaning Efficiency
 - Riboflavin Test
 - Swab Test
 - Direct Contact Test (DCT)
 - Rinse Test





Located in Paderborn/Germany since 1938 with approx. 440 employees and 68 Mio. EUR turnover accross the group

Business Activities





Turnkey Solutions

Coating

Granulating

Raw Materials





Bulk Solids



Powder



Paste







Granules

Dust

Sludge

Industries





Chemical Industry



Pharmaceuticals



Building Materials



Plastics



Polysaccharides



Food



Minerals / Ores



Environment



Cosmetics



Cleaning Challenges in Food Industry



Cleaning Challenges in Baking & Confectionery Industry

LIFE SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY

- Baby nutrition
- Baking mixes
- Vanilla sugar
- Chocolate
- Ice cream powder
- Enzymes
- Vitamin preparation
- Dietary food
- Nutritional supplements
- Etc.....





Cleaning Challenges in Baking & Confectionery Industry

- Product line of > 4.500 recipes
- Based on > 3.000 raw materials
- Partially 50 55 different dry ingredients (range 0,001 - 45 %)
- Plus 1 15 % liquid fraction
- Result:
 - Cleaning is mandatory to avoid any cross contamination
 - Cleaning takes a large part of potential production time





Cleaning Challenges in Baking & Confectionery Industry

CONTAMINATION OF FOOD



Sensory and Microbiology



14 major allergens





- Wet cleaning followed by drying is the safest method to minimize cross-contamination in any form.
- However, it is also the most expensive and time-consuming method.
- Dry cleaning is the fastest method but with the highest risk of cross-contamination.
- Here the system must be designed in such a way that residues are easy and can be removed quickly.
- The "extended" dry cleaning offers the possibility to save 50% (depending on the mixer type) time and as far as possible exclude "cross-contamination".











<u>Step 1:</u> Mixer filled with sticky powdered ingredients.





Step 2: Mixing the product.





<u>Step 3:</u> Discharging the well mixed product.





<u>Step 4:</u> Residue of sticky powder in the mixing drum.





<u>Step 5:</u> Filling the mixer with dry cleaning agent.





<u>Step 6:</u> Move the mixing tools with max. RPM.





<u>Step 7:</u> Discharge the dry cleaning agent.





<u>Step 8:</u> Residue after dry cleaning.







- WIP (Wash In Place) → machine is equipped with an <u>automatic</u> cleaning system but certain actions have to be done manually (e.g. connection of washing lids or hoses, dismounting of filters, etc.).
- □ CIP (Clean In Place) → machine is equipped with a <u>full automatic</u> cleaning system; there are no manual actions required; after a complete cleaning cycle the machine is ready for operation.
- □ COP (Clean Out of Place) → machine parts are dismounted and cleaned separately
- SIP (Sterilisation In Place) → after a complete cleaning cycle the machine is sterilized by temperature (steam) or chemical agent.
- □ DIP (Drying In Place) → after a wet cleaning cycle the machine is dried in place by suitable drying equipment (e.g. coater is dried by its air handling system, VT is dried by using the vacuum unit, etc.).



WIP-Design of Ploughshare Mixers





WIP-Design of Ploughshare Mixers





WIP-Design of Ploughshare Mixers













































Step 10: Machine drying by usage of ambient air / temperature control jacket / hot air blower.





LÖDIGE - ALWAYS THE RIGHT MIX

Warm water supply











WIP-Processes in other machines



WIP-Systems are available for almost all Lödige machines but are typically tailored according to customer's needs



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Test methods for determining the cleaning efficiency



Riboflavine testing basics

- Riboflavine is a water soluble vitamin (B2) with strong yellow colour
- Riboflavine glows if it is illuminated with ultraviolet light
- It's used as tracer for <u>visual inspection</u> of the WIP-System functionality and the efficiency of WIP-Nozzles
- Riboflavine testing has been established as one of the most common cleaning tests for pharmaceutical / food grade machines
- A guideline for a typical Riboflavine testing procedure was created and published by the VDMA







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Riboflavine testing guidelines







Riboflavine testing

Aims of testing (according to VDMA guidelines):

Riboflavine test:	Aim of test:	Criterion of quality after testing:	
Weak point test	Localizing critical points; provided as optional preliminary stage to the cleanability test.	Visible fluorescence at critical points; these are to be confirmed through a cleanability test.	
Cleanability test	Verification of full cleanability.	No visible fluorescence.	
Optimization test	Stepwise optimization and checking of suitability of new parameter values through separate, new cleanability tests.	No visible fluorescence and improved parameter values (e.g. reduced water consumption, shorter cleaning times, etc.)	









Step 1: Creating of a Riboflavine solution with specific concentration and filling into spraying equipment





Step 2: Spraying the Riboflavine solution on all product contact surfaces.





Step 2: Spraying the Riboflavine solution on all product contact surfaces.









<u>Step 3:</u> Running a full cleaning cycle.



Step 4: Visual inspection with UV-light / documentation of results.





Step 4: Visual inspection with UV-light / Examples for findings.



Weak point detection: Spray shadow behind shopper seal.

→ Machine needs a higher filling degree during main cleaning as spray nozzles can't cover this area.



Step 4: Visual inspection with UV-light / Examples for findings.



Technical issue detection: Rotating jet cleaner does not turn correctly and does not cover a lateral installed flange

→ Rotating jet cleaner was dismounted, checked and repaired (turning mechanism was blocked)



Step 4: Visual inspection with UV-light / Examples for findings.



Safety grids are difficult to clean as they're in contact with all waste water and have a complex surface

→ Cleaning recipe needs to be modified with additional cleaning cycles for discharge area at the end.



Riboflavine testing facts

- Riboflavine testing is good and effective procedure for testing the functionality and performance of cleaning systems
- It helps identifying weak points of WIP-Systems and needs for optimisation of cleaning recipes
- Riboflavine testing can be carried out as part of a FAT or SAT
- But Riboflavine testing gives just an indication about the functionality of the WIP-System and not about the chemically or biologically cleanliness of the machine and can't be used for cleaning validation
- Cleaning validation can be carried out by direct contact, swab or rinse testing







Swab Test

- Swab testing is a method for <u>cleaning validation</u> by swabbing a defined product contact surface (e.g. 25 cm²) with a suitable sample material (e.g. cotton wool, cotton stick, etc.) which is solvent impregnated.
- Possible residues of product or other contamination are collected by sample material and can be analysed chromatographically (e.g. by HPLC).
- Swabbing hast to take place on several defined positions in the machine with special sample templates (typically provided as PTFE or Silicon films).
- The overall machine pollution has to be calculated according to the tested surface and the analysis results.
- Swab testing should defined in a SOP.







Direct Contact Test (DCT)

- DCT is a method for <u>cleaning validation</u> which is used for detection of micro biological contamination of surfaces by usage of special RODAC-plates (Replicate Organism Detection and Counting).
- RODAC-plates have a standardized surface of 25 cm² which is covered with substrate and is pressed for 5-10 sec. on the machine's test surface.
- After testing the RODAC-plates are immediately closed and stored in an incubator for a certain period of time for germs growth.
- According to the type of germs and amount of colonies, the grade of pollution can be calculated.

DCT should defined in a SOP.







Rinse Tests

- Rinse testing is a method for <u>cleaning validation</u> by rinsing the whole product contact surface with water or solvent.
- For Final Rinse Testing the cleaning water from the last step of a cleaning sequence (usually AP-water) is collected and analysed. Analysis can take place directly in the waste water line by conductivity measurement.
- For Solvent Rinse Testing an additional solvent rinse of all product contact parts is carried out after a regular cleaning sequence. The solvent is chosen according to product's characteristics. Solvent samples are collected and analysed.

	55 nS/cm	water:	ultra-pure water
0	1 µS/cm		pure water
	10 µS/cm		process water
	100 µS/cm	food:	drinking water
	1 mS/cm		milk
	10 mS/cm		apple juice
	100 mS/cm	process:	phosphoric acid sulphuric acid
	1000 ms/cm		hydrochloric acid sodium hydroxide









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Thank you for your attention!