domnick hunter

O2MAXIGAS N_2EWS

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Chemical manufacture

A leading producer of agro chemicals and fertilizers located in Malaysia recently ordered a MAXIGAS N2MAX108 for blanketing an agrochemical used during the manufacture of herbicide and insecticide. Blanketing with nitrogen protects this flammable material from oxidation and combustion.

The company has undergone substantial expansion over recent years; products that include an organic fertilizer range are recognised as quality brands and are widely used by plantations, smallholders and farmers throughout Malaysia and Southeast Asia while orders from Australia and Europe are on the increase.

In its commitment to product excellence, the company believes that investing in the latest equipment for its factories and laboratories will further ensure products of the highest quality that will help improve crop production for a growing population.

The MAXIGAS generator provides nitrogen at a purity of 0.1% oxygen content and pressure of 5 barg and blankets the headspace of an 86m³ tank.

Nuts about Nitrogen

Ann's House of Nuts, North Carolina, USA recently ordered a N2MAX716 to provide nitrogen gas for Modified Atmosphere Packaging.

Ann's House of Nuts is an American dream-come-true story. The company was established in 1973 on the kitchen table at the home of its founders and has grown into one of the largest specialty snack companies in the United States. $180m USD in nuts, dried fruits and candy is produced at the North Carolina facility.

The company supplies major retailers across North America under own label brand names and also has international accounts.

Ann's House of Nuts uses the latest in high performance technology to remain competitive, so when the company was looking for a more efficient gas supply method they carefully reviewed alternative solutions.

domnick hunter has a long relationship with the Peanut & Tree Nut Processors Association, several members of the small trade organisation use MAXIGAS and served as great references as to its benefits.

The company selected MAXIGAS due to 'expandability' of design, energy savings, pre-treatment advantage and also because of domnick hunter's experience in nut packaging.

The MAXIGAS generator will produce over 14,000 scfh at 99.5% purity to cover the average flow rate and a bulk back-up supply will cover any short peaks in demand.

Ann's House of Nuts plan to add additional generator banks in the future as production increases.

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Maximising production efficiency

One of Australia's most successful wine bottling companies has installed a dual MAXIGAS unit to improve efficiency.

Portavin, located in Melbourne, put a lot of focus on quality control measures that contribute to the superior characteristics of the wine it bottles.

Continued growth in international demand for Australian wines has benefited the company and has seen it undergo rapid expansion over the last few years. On the flip side, Portavin has been squeezed by retailer demands for competitive prices. So when it came to planning a new bottling plant, the company began to investigate ways of cutting costs and maximising production efficiencies.

Nitrogen is used during winemaking and bottling to prevent oxidation that can cause discoloration, affect taste, aroma and shelf-life.

Dual MAXIGAS nitrogen generators and Bevpor filters from domnick hunter were installed at Portavin's new state of the art plant, which has a production capacity of more than 70,000 cases of wine per week.

MAXIGAS operates on the Pressure Swing Adsorption Principle to generate nitrogen from compressed air. All of Portavin's plants have a compressed air installation, so it made sense to capitalise on this existing resource.

Ian Matthews, Portavin Managing Director, says "Our aim at all times is to maximise production efficiencies for customers whilst achieving quality standards that give these same customers the edge when their wines are marketed overseas."

Portavin has been able to dispense with continual purchases of cryogenic nitrogen. And MAXIGAS gives them an uninterrupted nitrogen supply without any breaks in production, this reliability is important to a plant that operates 24 hours a day six days a week.

With a nitrogen production rate of 42,000 litres an hour, the new installation produces ample nitrogen gas at a consistent purity for inerting storage vessels, purging air from bottles prior to filling and for pressure assisted transfer of incoming wine from road tankers.

Generating lower nitrogen costs

HIKMA Pharmaceutical located near Lisbon, Portugal is a leading pharmaceutical company that uses nitrogen during the production of injectable medicines.

Prior to using nitrogen gas generators on-site, HIKMA had used cylinders, but quickly changed to a generator after domnick hunter distributor Gas-Man Lda illustrated the type and level of savings possible with MAXIGAS.

HIKMA achieved payback within 18 months and now incur no hidden costs such as delivery, the company also avoids annual price increases and now has ultimate control of their own nitrogen gas supply.

Nitrogen purity of 99.5% is used to prevent oxidation when filling vials with medicine, it is also used in HIKMA's quality control laboratories for analytical gas chromatography.

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