

Custom machines are still going strong after twentythree years of cutting.

Hewitt and Booth, a long established manufacturer of pipe cleaners uses custom designed machines to cut pipe cleaners. The cutting machine accommodates 25 bobbins of different colored pipe cleaners. The ends from each of the bobbins are fed through the machine by hand and clamped in place onto the carriage which is mounted to a slide system. A motor drives a cam drum which transports the carriage back and forth for a set distance. Attached to the cam drum is a cutting mechanism that crops the pipe cleaner to length. The carriage weighs 11 pounds with a resisting force of 5.8 PSI and a maximum speed of 1 ft/sec.

CHALLENGE

The manufacturer required four linear motion systems that could easily integrate into their custom designed cutting machines. It needed to accurately cut varying sizes of pipe cleaners to a specific length in a dusty environment and provide a consistent high quality product with minimum lead times.

SOLUTION

Hewitt and Booth chose DualVee Motion Technology® for their linear slides system. The carriage, which moves forward and backward, is mounted on the DualVee® wheels and track. To prevent the ingress of dust, cap wipers are fitted to the DualVee® systems to provide lubrication which increased the life of the machine by 25% and the load capacity by 300%.

According to Hewitt and Booth's Works Engineer, Steve Lunn, in the 23 years since installation there is very little sign of wear on the DualVee® linear systems. "They've really given us exceptional service" says Lunn.

