



VORTEX SEAL TITE DIVERTER HANDLING CLAY SAND

- Customer: Regional brick manufacturer
- Material: Clay sand
- Application: Diverting clay sand from a hopper to two different extrusion lines
- Challenge: Replace a problematic flapper style diverter
- Valves: Vortex Seal Tite Diverter
Z10-2CS-30-RT



Results:

This regional brick company produces extruded and handmade face brick as well as special shaped and clay pavers. During the process, clay sand is used to coat the extruded brick – giving it texture and an architectural look. Prior to coating, the sand is screened to remove larger particles that may affect the texture. Once coated, the “green” brick is then dried and sent to the kiln for firing.

In the past the company had relied on traditional flapper style diverters to divert the screened sand to the two extrusion lines. The diverters had problems sealing the material and were difficult to maintain.

In the fall of 2003, a Vortex Seal Tite Gravity Diverter was installed. The production manager liked the concept of the leading edge of the flapper being protected from the material flow. He also appreciated two other standard features: 1) removable access panel allows the flapper assembly to be easily maintained without having to remove the diverter from the conveying line, and 2) the area beneath the flapper shaft is sealed to keep material from migrating to the closed leg.

At the company’s request, Vortex engineered and manufactured the diverter with two special outlet transitions containing tube stubs to accommodate flex hose connections.

No maintenance has been performed on the Vortex diverter thus far.