

# RESTORING LIFE TO THE AGED!

## Power Up Keeps Dated Equipment Performing at Peak Efficiency

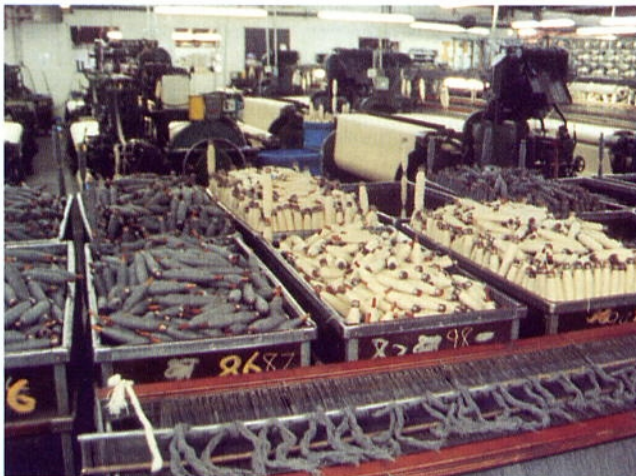
Mt. Jefferson Woolens, based in Jefferson, Oregon, has a very unique heritage. Formed in 1953, the wool mill is a continuation of a mill that dates back to the mid-1800's. Much of the manufacturing equipment in use today has been transferred from the early days. As well, Mt. Jefferson still believes in providing a full service right from buying wool from the farmers, processing the raw product and then shipping finished cloth to their customers. Mt. Jefferson's finished product is their customer's raw product which is used for jackets and outer apparel.

Mt. Jefferson has a collection of some of the oldest woolen manufacturing equipment in existence which makes maintenance one of the mill's unique challenges.

"The biggest challenge we face is maintaining our equipment," says plant engineer Steve Frolander. "The equipment is so old that parts are not available and that is why products like Power Up are so important to our operation. Power Up products have made a real impact on problem solving."

Mt. Jefferson first started using Power Up in December 1994. "I was a real disbeliever", says Steve, "but we had a problem gear box that was getting noisier and noisier all the time. We knew it needed to be replaced but we just couldn't afford the downtime. I tried about 10 different oils with no success and then I added Power Up. The next morning the night shift operator asked me when we had changed the gear box because it ran so well all night. Since that time, we have not touched the gear box other than an oil change. I was very impressed and I decided to try the product in other areas."

*"After almost two years of use our parts replacement has been non-existent."*



A 1939 spinning frame with a worm gear box was the next candidate. Due to a difficult location, maintenance was very time consuming and the gear box was in poor repair and running quite hot. An estimated 40 man hours in unscheduled downtime was a difficult option. Steve was looking for a solution and found it in Power Up and after the first day I was under the impression the unit had not run because it was so cold. When I asked the operator why it hadn't run, she assured me it had run all day and, in fact, produced a record day for yardage. Where the gear box had been in excess of 120°F before, it was now at room temperature. Power Up does amazing things to reduce heat caused by friction. We have had no failure of any kind, anywhere Power Up has been applied since 1994 which is saying a lot considering the age of the equipment," says Steve.

*"We have reduced our grease consumption by 2/3 and get superior lubrication."*

Another unique lubrication problem was solved on the chains of the cloth dryer. The chains incur significant friction and wear and are very expensive to replace. Chain link costs \$24.00 per foot and with 1000 feet of chain there is a significant investment in this component. The ability of the lubricant to protect the chain is hampered by the small amount that can be applied, as not to stain the cloth. "We tried many lubricants but we ended up with Power Up Lubricant Spray 1000 in a mist and it has been very effective, says Steve. "Our operators report dramatically reduced noise and I have not been able to mic' (measure by micrometre) any wear on the chains since we started using the Spray 1000.

Another benefit has been the reduced load on the motor. In fact, I have recommended this product to another mill that had similar chain problems. The Spray Lube is very popular throughout the mill particularly on cart wheels. I was ordering casters 3 or 4 times a year but haven't replaced any since the spray lube was introduced.

A very old compressor supplies air to the mill. Manufacturers assured Steve that the noise level and high oil consumption was typical of that model. After the addition of Power Up, both the noise and oil consumption were dramatically reduced. "That was the first time in 3 years I could hear any other noise in the room other than the compressor", says Steve. "One day we also lost the oil supply in the compressor due to a poor seal, but fortunately Power Up protected the unit even with no oil and has kept the compressor in excellent condition. We are very pleased with Power Up products. They have proven to me to reduce friction and reduce heat in every application. When all else is considered, heat reduction is the tell-tale sign of a good lubricant."



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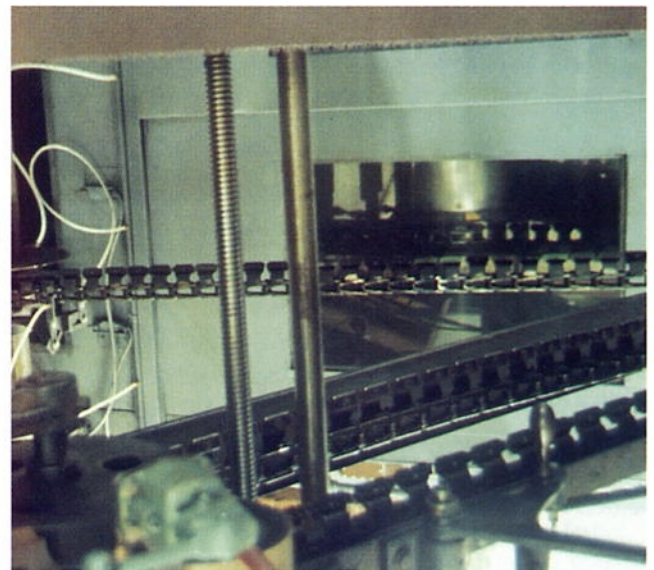
“What we make here at Mt. Jefferson is fairly unique and we are very proud of the product we produce. We like our customers to know we stand

Thixogrease is another product that has allowed us to make changes in the maintenance program at Mt. Jefferson. The high temperature bearings in the carbonizing oven, run close to 300°F. Other lubricants had difficulty lasting for any length of time. “Thixogrease stays put,” says Steve. “We have reduced our grease consumption by 2/3 and get superior lubrication.”

Power Up products provide a good financial solution for Mt. Jefferson for many reasons. The biggest reduction in costs are due to the virtual elimination of wear and our less frequent lubrication schedule. “Our scheduled maintenance has been reduced significantly,” says Steve. “After almost two years of use our parts replacement has been non-existent. This is very unusual considering the age of our equipment.”

Another area of benefit Steve has noticed is that of energy consumption. Amp draw tracking recorded a 26% reduction on the compressors. “I am truly convinced that with Power Up, we are seeing significant savings in both energy consumption and downtime. I am a believer, I don’t need any further convincing of how valuable these products are to our operation.

Power Up will remain a mainstay in the maintenance program at Mt. Jefferson Woolen’s and they look forward to many years of productivity. Steve takes great pride in their company and product.



*Part of the 100 feet of chain on the cloth dryer.*

behind our product, because we do a good job of manufacturing. That is the same kind of philosophy I look for in our vendors and I have found that in Power Up. These are products that really work!”