



ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

Dangerous oil leak problem solved by LabTecta®FS

A silicon lip seal fitted to a rubber lumps reactor at a chemical plant in northern Spain failed after just ten days, resulting in the serious leakage of oil from the gearbox.

The gearbox was around 12 metres above the ground. The only way in which the engineer tasked with topping up the oil could reach it was by climbing a vertical ladder. The dripping oil was also staining the reactor tank and pooling on the floor, causing a serious slip hazard to factory personnel working in the area.

The defective lip seal was eventually replaced during the annual maintenance shutdown. However, this involved a high-cost operation in which a crane was required to lower the gearbox to ground level and then raise it back up again when a replacement seal had been installed.

To avoid these problems as well as the expense involved, the company consulted AESSEAL®. The result was the installation in November 2020 of the AESSEAL® LabTecta®66FS bearing protector. After more than four years this has prevented any further leakage of oil and has removed a serious environmental hazard. It has also improved the overall safety of the working environment, and is saving the company around €5,800 a year in repair and maintenance costs.



‘MTBF increase from 10 days to >4 years’

Industry:	Chemical
Product:	LabTecta®66FS
Application:	Rubber Lumps Reactor
MTBF Increase:	14,810% (and counting)
Savings:	>€23,000 (and counting)
Reference N.O:	TD3104601



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