



Claus Sørensen

Leaving high maintenance costs in the cold with REFLO™ A

"We've had a valuable and useful experience with REFLO A. We expect to cut our total consumption of lubricating oil for our compressors in half."

Michael Glering, Plant Technical Manager,
Claus Sørensen A/S, Vejle, Denmark



To preserve vast quantities of food in cold storage, cooling system compressors need to run in optimal condition. For Claus Sørensen A/S, that means compressor oils must meet the unique operational demands within their refrigeration and cold storage facilities and provide reliable, high quality performance. With REFLO™ A, they found a compressor oil that provided excellent equipment protection, reduced oil consumption and improved cost savings.

The Challenge

Maintaining a cold store facility is a complex task. The compressors used in cooling systems are critical to the success of the operation and must be consistently maintained at peak efficiency. At the same time, operating costs must also be kept in line. This combination is even more challenging when the operation is as large as Claus Sørensen A/S.

Claus Sørensen is the biggest refrigerated and cold store group in Denmark. Their facilities are used for freezing and storing a range of food products, including seafood, meat, bread, ice cream, fruits and vegetables.

"Our freezing plants make rigorous demands on the compressor oil we use," explains Michael Glering, Plant Technical Manager at Claus Sørensen's plant in Vejle. "We operate to temperatures as low as -20°C, so we need compressor oil that will stand up to these demands."

When Claus Sørensen bought several new Grasso refrigerating compressors for their Vejle plant, they required a compressor fluid that could:

- Handle the frigid temperatures of their facilities
- Provide equipment protection
- Offer the potential for reduced oil consumption and cost savings

The Trial

A drum of Petro-Canada's REFLO A ammonia refrigeration compressor fluid was supplied with the compressors. After consulting with Petro-Canada's Danish distributor, Petro-Chem A/S, Claus Sørensen agreed to test REFLO A in one of its plants.

"We decided to take the plunge and it has been a big success," says Glering. "We've experienced no major problems after changing fluids, which is good."



The Results

Recently, Claus Sørensen overhauled one of their Grasso Compressors. The machine had been in operation since 2003, and ran a total of 36,000 hours on REFLO A. What their technicians found inside was not what they expected.

"We were very surprised when we saw the results," says Glering. "The internal parts looked like they had just been installed in the compressor."

Even after eight years of operation, the compressor showed no signs of coke formation and, thanks to the excellent protection of REFLO A, wear was so minimal that the internal components were still very close to the tolerance of brand new parts.

Normally, used lubricating oil from the refrigeration circuit is discarded but, after filtering, REFLO A was almost the same as the day it was poured into the system.

"To be on the safe side we sent a sample to Petro-Canada's laboratory for analysis," says Glering. "It confirmed that the oil is almost good as new with a very low content of metals and contaminants."

Since switching to REFLO A, Claus Sørensen has also not only experienced the performance benefits it brings to their compressors, they're also discovering how REFLO A can improve their bottom line.

"With REFLO A, we expect to cut our total consumption of lubricating oil for our compressors in half. When you consider the 27 Sabroe and Grasso piston compressors we have here in Vejle, and the larger number of compressors we run nationally, the cost savings can really add up."

Claus Sørensen A/S

The Claus Sørensen Group is a dynamic and modern chain of cold stores for the food industry. They have 11 facilities located from Skagen in the north to Padborg in the south, totaling 692,000 cubic metres (905,136 cubic yards) of cold storage capacity. The company, which employs 1,000 people, has more than 80 years of experience in freezing and storing food. The group also operates high-capacity ice factories in major Danish fishing ports, and is the world's largest supplier of flake ice to the fishing industry.

Put the freeze on maintenance costs with REFLO

REFLO refrigeration compressor fluids are formulated for commercial refrigeration systems. The complete line of REFLO compressor fluids, with proper maintenance, can help to reduce fluid consumption, minimize downtime, protect equipment and save you money.

REFLO A for ammonia refrigeration systems is specially formulated to provide reliable, long-term performance for operational cost savings. Unlike traditional refrigeration oils, REFLO A is less volatile at high temperatures and less soluble with ammonia. With proper maintenance, this can equate to reduced fluid consumption and overall costs.

To learn more about how Petro-Canada Lubricants can help your business visit:

lubricants.petro-canada.com

or contact us at lubecsr@petrocanadalsp.com

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