

WP0283**Dodge Washdown mounted ball bearings food and beverage: new assembly cell Rogersville, Tennessee**Dodge Application Engineering
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ABB proudly produces Dodge® ball bearings in the US at our world class manufacturing facility in Rogersville TN. A new food and beverage machining/assembly cell for our wash down bearing products was recently created. This was done to segregate wash down product from standard ball bearing production. Separating the products allows ABB to supply the highest quality parts, and also yields efficiencies which helps lower costs and improve deliveries.

Wash down bearings share very few components with standard ball bearings. They use either polymer or stainless housings, Max Life cages, stainless or TDNC plated bearings, internal rubber flingers, and food grade FM-222 grease. None of these components are used for standard ball bearings. Standard ball bearing housings are machined from cast iron, which leaves very fine cast iron particulates on the parts, sometimes referred to as cast iron dust. Wash down bearings cannot be exposed to this cast iron residue as it will rust and corrode. Combining assemblies at the same cells with standard ball bearings adds complexity and allows for the possibility of cast iron contamination of the food grade product.

Creating a separate cell for wash down products and segregating the components easily eliminates these complexities and streamlines the assembly processes for both products. The food and beverage cell is solely dedicated to wash down bearings. No other product is assembled in this cell. This eliminates the possibility of contamination and storing wash down components near the cell provides for a more efficient, lean process.

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Components and raw materials start at one end of the cell and are assembled and packaged at the end. Pic. 1 shows a typical order ready for assembly and packaging.



Picture 1. Polymer housings and TDNC inserts

This cell has been created to provide customers the highest quality products at prices that can still be competitive in the marketplace. Having a dedicated food and beverage cell allows ABB to provide fast deliveries and react to customer's needs.

For questions regarding food and beverage bearings or applications in general, contact Application Engineering for bearings and PT components at (864) 284-5700 or email at brgpttechsupport@abb.com.

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