



SUCCESS STORY

Industrial Shock Block SB5000 Offers Maximum Personnel Protection

Quick Facts:

Industry:
Food & Beverage

Application:
Appetizer Production

Specific Use:
Provide GFCI protection
for workers in appetizer
production facility

End Customer:
Appetizer maker

Benefits of Product:
Electrical shock protection,
reliable performance,
proactively trips when
necessary, continuous
self-test, ground check
monitoring circuit, meets
code requirements

Introduction

A global food production company wanted to take a proactive approach to ensure their workers in an appetizer producing facility would be protected from an electrical injury. The facility creates a wide variety of appetizer items, which changes frequently, sometimes on a daily basis.

In order to make the different types of foods, the production line equipment needs to be rearranged frequently. Employees have to unplug existing equipment from the production line, move equipment in and out of the production line to configure the new arrangement for the day's production run and plug in the reconfigured equipment. Equipment rolls around on casters and there are numerous cable drops coming in from the ceiling for the production line. Moving the equipment around and plugging/unplugging electrical lines creates a potential hazard for the workers.

"There could be anywhere from 5 to 15 pieces of machinery being moved around," said Robert Shirley, Littelfuse Sr. Sales Engineer, IBU. "This puts employees at risk."

Recognizing there could be a potential hazard in this process, the company decided to take precautionary measures. "The customer made this decision to keep their employees safe and out of harm's way," stated Shirley. "Protection for their employees was the number one motivation. Their secondary motivation was to keep the production line up and running."

Littelfuse representatives visited the food-making facility to assess their needs. The customer wanted a GFCI solution, so they purchased one Shock Block SB5000 unit on a trial basis.

Application

The customer was so pleased with the results, they purchased and installed 70 Littelfuse Shock Block SB5000 units in their facility. Shirley noted that there were two specific reasons for the customer making the decision to purchase the Littelfuse product. According to Shirley, the customer based their decision on these two differentiating features:

1. The SB5000 is available up to 100 A
2. The SB5000 is UL 943 and UL 943C Listed

The Shock Block SB5000 GFCI offers a ground check circuit to monitor the continuity of the ground wire. If the ground wire circuit opens between the GFCI and the load, the Shock Block will trip the circuit with a ground check indication.

Outcome

The customer has been using the SB5000 units for approximately eight months, and they are pleased with the quality and performance. As a result, they are planning to purchase additional units for their other facilities. "The customer realized the Shock Block SB5000 was a good investment for the safety of their employees and for the uninterrupted production of their products," stated Shirley.

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