



# Downtime Reduction (Bakery)

A large, multinational bakery in the UK was having difficulty with the flexible sleeve connecting a weigh hopper and dough mixer. Inaccuracy in fitting meant load cells were affected and each time an hour of lost production was spent adjusting the connector to ensure accurate tare weight. Installing BFM® flexible fittings has saved them over £40,000 in lost production.



BEFORE



AFTER

## The Challenge:

The traditional hose-clip fastening of the flexible connector feeding from the weigh hopper to the dough mixer was very fiddly to install. The potential for the connector to be fitted too tightly meant it interfered with the load cells and the lost time to refit it to ensure weigh accuracy was extremely time costly in lost production.

There was also significant dust leakage which was a potential COSHH compliance issue and required ongoing additional cleaning costs.

## The Solution:

By installing a BFM® fitting, the snap-fit, self-locating sleeve ensures consistent flexibility to prevent interference with load cells. The traditional sleeves were being replaced every 3 months with over 3 hours' downtime per annum. Since installing the BFM® fitting, they have had 18 months with no downtime.

The 100% dust tight seal of the BFM® fitting also means that the factory environment is much cleaner and the cleaning bills have also been greatly reduced.

## The Benefits:



**DOWNTIME:** Sleeve replacement time reduced substantially - no downtime in 18 months.



**INSTALLATION:** Snap-fit, no potential to fit incorrectly so no long, fiddly installations with jubilee clips and screws.



**HYGIENE:** 100% dust tight seal means no more product leakage, less cleaning and better overall factory hygiene.



**HEALTH & SAFETY:** New dust free environment means it's better for staff and provides greater COSHH compliance.

"BFM® is such a simple idea which translates into real benefit in our plant. It is impossible to fit BFM® wrong and there is no build up, so weighing problems are a thing of the past, saving us a small fortune. They are also 100% dust tight which reduces our cleaning bills." - Maintenance Manager

Case Study provided courtesy of Prospare, UK