

Keeping Hot Product Hot



LMK Thermosafe drum and IBC heaters are arguably the most effective jacket style industrial heater system on the market. The tendency is to think of them as a means of either raising the temperature of product from a solid to a liquid, or to prevent product becoming too cold or crystallized.

However, there is another use that some companies are waking up to—maintaining an already hot product at an appropriate temperature while it is then processed or stored over a period of time. Two such companies are case studied here and have achieved excellent results from their jackets.



Da Vinci Foods is a premium pasta manufacturer based in Melbourne, producing meals under its own brand and for 'own label' supermarkets in Australia and South East Asia. For a new product they required a batch of sauce cooked at 90°C to be maintained close to this temperature in an adjoining vat for a period of time while it was processed. While the vat was slightly larger than a 205 litre drum, they were able to use a standard HHD drum jacket, with extension straps to cover the additional 200mm circumference.

"The jacket is working great and has helped us keep product above required temperature in the holding vat. It was also a good commercial decision as it is relatively cheap (compared to other ways), is safer and separate insulation is not required for the vat" states Tony Di Sebastiano of Da Vinci.



Nulon Products, based in Sydney, is Australia's premier privately owned performance lubricant manufacturer. Chris Pascoe, Operations Director needed to maintain a temperature of around 40°C in a bottle-in-cage IBC when a product (a viscosity index enhancer blended with 20% oil) was poured in at 60°C. IBC Solutions (now SBH Solutions) recommended the LMK Thermosafe IBC1 with a single 1300w circuit, and an insulated lid.

"The trial worked perfectly" says Chris. "We only run a batch every few weeks, so it is good to be able to have a safe and easy-to-use solution that does not take up factory space when not in use".

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Basic Procedure for using jackets to maintain a hot product hot

- Container or drum is pre-heated to desired temperature—the thermostat will cut out when this is achieved. In a bottle-in-cage IBC this also prevents bottle contraction at time of pouring.
- Hot product is poured in to the drum or container. Given the insulating properties of the jacket there will be a slight but steady loss of heat from the contents until the desired temperature is reached at which time the jacket's heating element will kick in to maintain the temperature within a degree or two of the dialed figure on the thermostat.
- Temperature can be maintained safely and indefinitely as long as power is available. With IBC it is critical that an insulated lid is used so that the jacket does not have to compete with a large area of heat loss.



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