

## ELIMINATING PROBLEMS WITH CONTAINER DEFECTS

A leading producer of glass jars for food products was challenged by its customer to produce higher quality, blemish free containers. Specifically, the customer wanted to reduce the size and number of small cracks, also called checks, which appeared on the bottom of jars during production. Faced with this new challenge, the glassmaker contacted **Ramsey** for assistance.

Working with glass production personnel, Ramsey's technical sales team was able to identify the source of the glass checking. During container production, red-hot jars move from the mould to a dead plate and then to a glass conveying chain. The containers are very fragile during this stage of production and it is critical that the glass be transferred smoothly from the dead plate to the chain. After examining the actual glass conveyor, it was determined that the transfer of jars to the chain was not occurring as smoothly as it should, and cracks were developing during the transfer process.

In order to provide better product transfer and fewer cracks, Ramsey proposed that the conveying chain be replaced with a different style of chain. The original chain was an extended pitch, link and spacer, chain design that contained large openings, or gaps, in the chain surface, as a means for increasing air-flow. In this application, where smooth product transfer was especially important, Ramsey recommended a *Ramsey Ultralife* ½" pitch, all link, conveyor chain. The recommended chain contains much smaller gaps in the chain surface, and was expected to provide better glassware support during the transfer process.

After installation of the new Ramsey conveying chain, the glassmaker experienced an immediate improvement in container quality. The incidence of checks and bottom defects was significantly reduced and, according to the final customer, "...container quality was the highest seen from any source."

Ramsey Products has manufactured chains for more than 85 years and is a leading supplier of conveying chains and take out arms for the glass industry with warehouses and representatives around the world.

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