



in action

FOCUS ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

OSI Employs Horizontal Air Vestibule Technology for Doors in West Chicago Plant

New cold storage doors improve energy efficiency

West Chicago, Illinois, USA, May 7, 2008 – Two new doors utilizing horizontal air vestibule technology were installed in OSI's West Chicago, Illinois facility. These new "HCR" Air Doors replaced the traditional solid cold storage doors that are normally used in freezers and coolers. The term "HCR" is derived from a working principle meaning "a **H**orizontally directed air stream that travels in a **C**urvilinear path and is **R**e-circulatory." These doors improve cold storage conditions, reduce maintenance, improve efficiency, and reduce ice and frost buildup in the freezers.

Moisture infiltration near standard doors often produces frost buildup. "After the doors were installed and adjusted appropriately, the frost buildup in the freezer disappeared," said Eric Napientek, Plant Manager. "Ice on the floor was eliminated, and so were the frost crystals on the product," he said. "Damage to the doors from forklift traffic went to near zero as well."

The HCR Air Doors are designed as a horizontal air barrier, providing an open space between the two temperature areas needing to be segregated. The HCR Air Door is created entirely from air flow, allowing for 100% visibility and a wide space for transit. These HCR Air Doors now control up to 85% of the heat and moisture migration between the shipping dock and freezer, and offer an obstacle-free doorway. In addition to reducing maintenance and saving energy, the new doors have helped improve product quality and dock efficiency. Safety has also been enhanced in the product storage areas.

Energy savings generated by the HCR doors, as validated by an independent third-party engineering firm, calculated a savings rate of several thousand dollars per year. The project will also reduce the costs of door maintenance and replacement as well as labor for frost elimination on the evaporator, ceiling and walls. Improved efficiency of forklift drivers should also contribute to cost savings.

The monetary return on investment for this project ranges from one and one-half to two years, but the investment in the environment itself produces an immediate payback. One other OSI Group facility has installed the doors as well, and two other locations are also looking into making the same improvement.

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About OSI

For over 50 years, the OSI Group, LLC has been a global leader in supplying value added protein items and other food products to leading foodservice and retail brands. They are a privately held corporation with more than 40 facilities in 17 countries. Their global headquarters is located outside of Chicago in Aurora, Illinois, USA.

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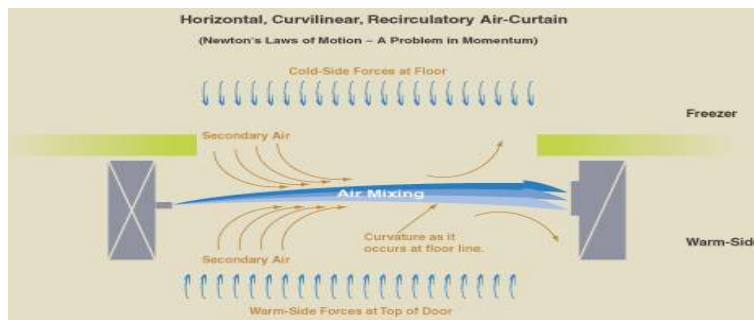
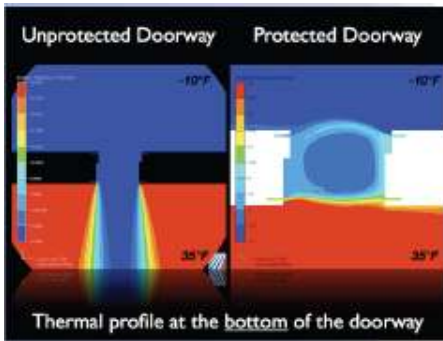
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Installed HCR Air Door



OSI West Chicago Staff Members by the new HCR door



Air Flow Diagram of the Doorway

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