MICRO AIR RP6-2 Dust Collector and Intelli-Touch Energy Savings Controls Exceed NIKE Expectations and Meet “The Oven’s” Superior Standards of Excellence

Application: Polishing / Grinding
Products: RP6-2 Dust Collector—12 Cartridge System
Intelli-Touch Energy Savings Controls
3 ea. TM1000 Portable Collectors
9 ea. MX1800 Ambient Collectors

Challenge: NIKE GOLF’s Fort Worth TX location, better known as “The Oven” is dedicated to R & D for the development of performance golf clubs, hand-crafted to meet NIKE’s individual tour golfer’s specs, testing of both clubs and golf balls, as well as collaborating with NIKE Golf tour athletes, who depend on “The Oven” for development, testing and fitting to ensure that they are personally equipped to perform at their very best. NIKE, in their second expansion in less than three years, expected nothing less than “the best” in the environmental control equipment needed for the facility as well. Micro Air’s Engineered Systems Distributor, Jim Reynolds with Tapcon Inc. followed up on a Micro Air lead, and working with the Micro Air sales and engineering teams, designed the system that keeps NIKE employees, as well as the pros who frequent the facility, breathing clean air and keeps the high-profile facility spotlessly clean. NIKE’s largest concern was a 36’ x 50’ room where they grind, polish and buff the prototype clubs in process. They currently employed 6 drops in this area but needed the capability to expand to up to 20 drops, with, due to the prototype nature of their processes, roughly half of those drops running at any given time. There were three separate areas for milling, grinding, and welding processes as well. The last concern was for migratory dust from operations in other rooms.

Solutions: Jim laid out the drops and sized the central system at 5500 CFM, utilizing Micro Air’s 12-cartridge, RP6-2 dust collector equipped with a 15 hp top mount fan, spun bond poly filters and Micro Air’s unique Roto-Pulse™ automatic, filter cleaning system designed for online and off-line duty. Micro Air’s Intelli-Touch™ controls were the solution for the challenge of future additional drops. Intelli-Touch™ is a multipurpose electrical control system that allows the customer the ability to plan for future expansion, reduce electrical costs, and better utilize equipment. The Intelli-Touch™ controls implement a combination of variable frequency drive and PLC, with a touch screen interface. The touch screen provides user-friendly controls that also disseminates system feedback such as Static Pressure, CFM, Amp Draw, RPM, Horsepower, Pulse Settings etc. The PLC provides accurate and dependable pulsing. Finally the frequency drive enables the motor to be operated at any speed, but more importantly, it operates at the exact right speed. Set the CFM requirement and the motor only runs as fast as is necessary to maintain that CFM, eliminating energy draining, hard starts, or air to cloth ratios that are too high at start-up with clean filters, and low air flow once the filters are caked. Operating the blower at only the capacity required to maintain the proper CFM keeps CFM constant from the first time the unit is turned on until time for filter change-out, thus extending filter life, and greatly reducing energy costs. NIKE, a manufacturer that goes to great lengths to develop work environments that attract and retain superior employees, also purchased three Micro Air TM1000 portable collectors for the milling, grinding and welding processes, and 9 ea. MX1800 ambient collectors, strategically placed in a racetrack configuration to capture migratory dusts from other areas. The utilization of Micro Air’s system, including the Intelli-Touch™ energy savings controls package proved to be a “win-win” solution for the winning NIKE team, reducing environmental impact by operating in a more energy conscious manner and providing a clean, healthy work environment.

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