

When a Solution Works This Well...Add Another



Sometimes the challenge is less a problem and more an opportunity to repeat what already works well. When Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times in Southern California unveils a new dining hall in 2015 that will significantly enhance the camp experience for youth struggling with cancer and their families, two donated Mars Air Systems air curtains will stand guard over their foodservice delivery doors. Their role? Repel exterior air and particulate matter so the foodservice areas are clean and add to keeping air cool and comfortable for workers so they stay productive. Having hosted over 6,000 campers since 2007, a significant volume of food needs to be processed each year to feed all these hungry guests.

THE SOLUTION

When finding a solution meant having to look no further than skyward in the existing dining hall, the Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times staff finds a circa-1989 Mars air curtain still hard at work in the retiring dining center. The 26-year old unit continues to create the wall of air needed to dispel dirt, dust and insects. Happy to be able to keep the still-operating air curtain in place as the outmoded facility transitions to a culinary teaching center, the staff reaches out to Mars for two additional workhorses. In doing so, the Mars contribution joins with built-environment leaders such as James Hardie Building Products, HunterDouglas and DupontTM Corian® to breathe life into a new 14,000 square foot complex so guests can recreate the family dining table while at camp.



STUDIES REVEAL A 6%-9% UPSIDE EFFECT ON WORK PERFORMANCE BASED ON IMPROVED AIR QUALITY AND TEMPERATURE. (WYON 2004)



PRODUCING NON-TRADITIONAL SOLUTIONS

To make sure frozen food keeps its sensory and nutritional quality, as well as maintain food safety standards, temperature requirements have been set for every stage of the cold storage chain. No less a consideration is the hit to food storage life when products are exposed to temperature fluctuations. In challenging environments, the mere act of moving food from a transport truck to a freezer can raise the temperature of the food significantly and tax a cooling system as it struggles to return to the thermostat set point. The Mena House Hotel in heat-steeped Cairo, Egypt has welcomed dignitaries such as Winston Churchill, Queen Mary and Richard Nixon as well as average summer temperatures of 94°F to 104°F. With a bank of 20 foot by 20 foot freezers that needed repeated stocking to feed hotel guests, a solution of significance was on demand to unburden the freezer compressors, protect the food from heating up and give some relief to rising energy costs. Using a series of 42-inch custom-engineered models, the Mars Air Systems engineering team was able to create a wall of cold air sufficient enough to consistently halt the incursion of heat and dust. The air curtains eliminated temperature fluctuations, cut out the stress on the equipment trying to re-cool and helped reduce burgeoning energy costs.



TOO MANY PEOPLE NEED US - IT HAS TO BE RIGHT

When you're as successful as Westmoreland County Food Bank because you serve 7,200 families a month and operate a 40,000 sq.ft. facility that processes 8.6 million pounds of food a year, your food storage equipment needs to work flawlessly. For Westmoreland, facility limitations forced the freezer and evaporator to sit side-by-side which led to a healthy dose of humidity leading to ice and frost on the floor outside the freezer doorway – a safety hazard for both forklifts and workers on foot. When it's too important or costly to be anything other than right, Mars Air Systems is the team you want on your side. Mars has been repeatedly the source for answers when large industrial and foodservice operators need no-fail solutions to vexing humidity, unwanted condensation or accident-provoking pools of water. Deploying air baffles to ride shotgun along side the series of air curtains gave the Westmoreland workers the means to ward off the flowing water that had been a source of slippage, falls and worker injury.



TOP CHAINS ORDER UP PEAK PERFORMERS

While a Health Department code may prescribe air curtains to create cleaner, pest-free food prep areas, the real mandate comes from patrons. Creating a pest-free space with evenly distributed conditioned air does more than give guests the impression of clean, it's actually a building block to designing a truly hygienic venue. Food poisoning is directly linked to flies who carry pathogenic organisms that cause E. coli, salmonella and shingles and introduce other bacteria. Working hand in hand with the sanitation protocols you already have, Mars Air Systems' air curtains above entry doors, pass through windows and back receiving doors becomes a silent sentry that seizes control to keep the uninvited out. And, we've been doing that for over 50 years for iconic hospitality brands such as Panda Express, In-N-Out Burger, Taco Bell, Subway, Olive Garden and growing up-and-comers like Smashburger and Five Guys Burgers. Whether it's the need for a recessed unit that blends seamlessly in a well-defined décor vision, or defense against brutal weather conditions -- both hot and cold -- or the need for food storage areas to be vigorously defended Mars products have been the solution of choice for the most demanding operators world-wide.



MAXIMIZE MONEY-MAKING INTERIOR SPACES

Being asked to partner with what may be the most beloved American treasure is a big responsibility. It means helping create a special experience for the more than four million tourists -- Americans and foreign visitors -- every year who visit the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island. While studies consistently affirm that consumer buying intention increases with warmth (Journal of Consumer Psychology), the prevailing winds off the Atlantic were creating an ongoing chill at this national monument causing discomfort for gift shop visitors. But when four of Mars Air Systems' electric-heated air curtains were installed to form an invisible barrier to the wind gusts and contribute to a consistent temperature at the site's gift shop, liberation from the wind was realized and the entire interior space – including entryways -- was restored to profitable comfort.





