



Customer : **Linde Gas Benelux BV**
 Product group : **Industrial Plastics**
 Market : **Transport, aviation and maritime**

ERIKS MAKES EASY-TO-USE MULTILENE M DUST SLEEVE FOR VERY LOW TEMPERATURES

Linde Gas Benelux suction hoses now properly closed in the hose container



CUSTOMER PROFILE

Linde Gas Benelux distributes cryogenic gases – nitrogen, oxygen and argon – in liquid form and in containers to customers in the Benelux, but also through pipelines. Transport is divided over the Beverwijk, Dieren and Botlek sites.

CHALLENGE

As a gas supplier, Linde Gas Benelux must comply with a number of requirements. One of those is that the loading hoses are fitted with dust caps to prevent contamination of the trucks' hoses. After unloading, the hose, which then is at a temperature of -196 °C, is put back in the hose container, which is closed with a cap.

Linde Gas Benelux used to use Epramid lids. Audits over the past few years showed that they were not always closed. Because there is humidity in the air, small ice crystals form in both the inner and outer threads of the cap. When the driver arrived at his next customer, the cap would be stuck, or he could only move it a half turn. The caps would be on board the truck, but they weren't being used. ERIKS was asked to devise a solution.

SOLUTION

Epramid is a hygroscopic material that is unsuitable for these kinds of processes because water from the air precipitates and freezes, leading to problems during loading and unloading. Multilene M was chosen, a smooth, non-hygroscopic material that is resistant to extremely low temperatures and does not have attaching properties. The tube is not pressurised, so

the thread of the cap could be widened slightly.

To make the cap easier to manage for the drivers, the shape was adapted to the thick insulating gloves they wear when handling the hoses. Due to the extreme cold, the hose must be held for the shortest time possible. Semi-circular hooks provide good grip on the cap with the gloves and make it easy to screw it onto the hose. All caps have now been replaced by Multilene M units provided by ERIKS.

OTHER BENEFITS

- Highly satisfied with the new cryogenic cap, Linde Gas Benelux has also asked ERIKS to develop a cap for smaller tankers with a different hose diameter.

FURTHER COMMENTS

We had an issue with the caps, but we just couldn't find the right partner. Once we found ERIKS, the problem was solved quickly, because we were on the same wavelength.

Gerco Pape,
 Team Leader Bulk Drivers Linde Gas Benelux