



SUCCESS STORY

Alkon Helps Food Processing Equipment Supplier Meet High Performance Standards

Food-safe and stainless, Allenair's Valve-in-Head® actuator modernizes legacy equipment.

A long-time customer in the food processing industry required a hygienic upgrade to their legacy guillotine design. Allenair, an Alkon Corporation brand, collaborated closely to develop a CIP-capable Valve-in-Head® (VIH) actuator that preserved performance while enabling use in sanitary environments.



CLIENT

Food Processing
Equipment Supplier

LOCATION

Northeast, USA

FEATURED PRODUCT

Hygienic Valve-in-Head® Actuator



CHALLENGE

The supplier had relied on Allenair's Valve-in-Head® actuator for over four decades thanks to its speed, compact size, and proven reliability. However, as food safety standards advanced, the unit's conventional design limited its use. The customer needed a cleaner, food-safe actuator to modernize their guillotine machine—without sacrificing speed. Alternative setups with separate valves and cylinders couldn't match Allenair's performance and required larger, more complex, and costlier solutions.

SOLUTION

Allenair responded by redesigning the VIH actuator into a fully stainless-steel hygienic unit, built to withstand clean-in-place (CIP) systems and meet evolving sanitation standards. The hygienic VIH actuator's construction eliminated exposed threads and wicking points, enabling safe use in washdown environments while delivering the same responsiveness and control as the legacy model. Allenair's engineers also identified side-loading in the original application and implemented a new mounting design to extend seal life and reliability.

RESULT

The new hygienic Valve-in-Head® actuator meets the latest food industry standards while maintaining the performance of the original. Its all-in-one design simplifies installation, requiring only an airline and electrical signal. The supplier now confidently integrates the unit across machines, ensuring speed, efficiency, and food-safe operation.

"At Alkon, we deliver agile, efficient solutions that enhance our customers' operations. When a long-time partner needed a hygienic upgrade, we delivered. Innovation and reliability keep customer needs at the core of everything we do."

– Tim Wheeler, Director of Technical Sales, Alkon Corp.