STERLING

Technology Driven Compounder Installs a Modular High-Efficiency Central Chiller Solution to Meet Their Growth Targets

CRC Polymer Systems invests in a Sterling Chiller Solution that meets today's needs with the capacity to scale up as needed for tomorrow.

CUSTOMER

CRC supplies compounds, resins and colors to the plastics industry, along with value-added services like material selection, product development, compounding, blending, and more.

CHALLENGE

With a new production line that would boost capacity from 15 million to 35 million pounds per year and plans to add more, the company needed to meet both current and future needs.

SOLUTION

With the HE Chiller's modular capabilities, the Sterling team was able to help the company meet the needs for the first expansion while also preparing for future growth.

RESULTS

CRC Polymer Systems was able to launch its third production line successfully while adding capabilities for future expansion early, seamlessly, and cost-effectively.

A core tenet of CRC Polymer System's mission statement is delivering "the best performance at the best price." With an expansion of a third production line, they needed a central chiller solution that achieved all that... for the long term.

Some companies find themselves constantly reacting to the need of the day. While others are more forward-thinking, meeting customer needs today while planning for growth tomorrow. Dave Saldo and Todd Ewing started CRC Polymer Systems more than twenty years ago when they saw a growing need in the materials market for technical expertise. They started the company to help fill that immediate void in the short-term, but continued to grow by staying one step ahead of the competition, eventually purchasing a 60,000- square foot manufacturing plant in Sodus, NY, to meet the needs of a three-fold increase in business.

It's that forward-thinking mindset that also influences their equipment purchasing decisions, always planning for tomorrow's needs as they continue to expand their reach and capabilities with new industry-leading products and expert technical services. As their pelletizer and extruder production lines expanded, they found they needed to address a crucial shortage.

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-Todd Ewing, Co-Founder
CRC Polymer Systems

Continued on Page 2

INTRODUCTION (CONTINUED)

"As our business began to grow more, we found that we were always short on chilled water with the current undersized 40-ton chiller we were running," says co-founder Todd Ewing. "We had put in a pretty large manufacturing line that required up to 100 tons of chilled water. We began our research on central chillers and the Sterling High Efficiency Chiller impressed us with the savings customers were experiencing. Keeping operational costs down is important to ensure we hit competitive price points for our customers. We decided to make a significant investment in making sure being short on chilled water didn't happen again."

Benefits by the Numbers

180 tons of current chiller water capacity

Up to 600-ton potential expansion capacity

Up to 60% energy savings with ultra-efficient, proprietary technology

20°F to 80°F (-7°C to 26.6°C) leaving fluid temperature range

MODULARITY: KEY FACTOR FOR FUTURE PLANS

Savvy business owners make smart purchasing decisions not solely based on the cost today, but overall value, ROI, total cost of ownership and future growth potential. It's this inclination to peer around the corner that guided the team at CRC Polymer Systems to take special notice of the Sterling High Efficiency Central Chiller, particularly its modular capabilities.

"The modularity of the chiller was important to us," says Ewing. "We are neat freaks. We like structure, and we like things to look the same. The Sterling chiller system makes it simple to add modules and be ready for future growth. Quite frankly, it wasn't the lowest cost system because it included system elements needed for future growth. We knew that it would make sense for us and be less expensive in the long run. It was an ideal solution that meets the needs of our production lines today, with the ability to expand cost-effectively tomorrow."

CRC Polymer System saw short- and long-term value and advantages of integrating a chiller with industry-leading modular features and capabilities:

- Expansion is made easy by plugging similar capacity units in parallel for up to 600 tons of cooling.
- The chillers communicate with one another to maintain the desired tank temperature.
- Should a unit go down, the others automatically compensate to maintain the required process temperature.
- Modules are easy to install with seamless integration — controls automatically recognize a new chiller plugged into adjacent units; a simple touch of a button enables the circuit.
- Flexible installation design fits their factory layout

"Keeping operational costs down is important to ensure we hit competitive price points for our customers."

-Todd Ewing, Co-Founder
CRC Polymer Systems

To easily meet current needs while having ample capacity for an increased volume of chilled water for the foreseeable future, CRC Polymer System purchased a Sterling High Efficiency Chiller with three 60 ton modules. The total capacity of 180 tons more than met their current needs, but the company continues to expand with new and innovative materials. The company plans to add another 60-ton module for 240 tons of chilled water to keep their operation humming when they increase their manufacturing capacity.

PERSONAL AND EXPERT CONSULTATION RAISES THE BAR

While the capacity to grow was important to the owners, another key variable was the high level of personal service and expertise from the Sterling team.

"I don't want it to go their heads," jokes Ewing. "But the Sterling team did a great job of walking us through the entire process, helping us understand the system, and getting us set up for some efficiencies that made sense. We run a steep electric bill, so we're excited about the future energy savings. It was their innovative high-efficiency technology that made me call them in the first place."

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CRC Polymer Systems

Besides the high level of system consultation, the Sterling team helped to come up with a solution for some space limitations in the designated area for the chillers on the plant floor: "We ended up going with a mezzanine on this project to reduce the floor space," says Wayne Lange, Technical Sales Manager. "Harrison Kay, CRC's Plant Engineer created the design, and we custom-configured the pump tank so that it fit exactly where they wanted it. Once the new structure was built, we installed the master module on the ground floor and the two drone modules on the top level of the mezzanine, with the condensers outside."

Another determining factor for Ewing was quality: "When you sit back and look at the Sterling chiller system, you notice the exceptional steelwork. You look at the welding. You see the selection of components and how the system is engineered and built in a high-quality way… when the Sterling team did all that, we knew it would meet our expectations. All of our extrusion equipment is high-end stuff, so it matches up quite well."

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'3 Steps to Achieving High-Efficiency Chiller Performance'

Learn more behind the technology that makes these savings possible, in our white paper to download visit:

https://www.sterlco.com/chillersavingsandperformance/

CAN YOUR PRODUCTION LINE BENEFIT FROM A STERLING HIGH EFFICIENCY CENTRAL CHILLER?

Call the Sterling experts today to help determine how you can benefit from an energy-efficient Central Chiller with modular capabilities. Typical applications include:

- Injection molding
- Blow molding
- Extrusion
- Thermoforming
- Machine tooling
- Metal plating
- Thermal spray
- Laser
- After-coolers (air compressors, dryers)
- Printing (offset, gravure, digital)
- Food & Beverage
- Pharmaceutical

We can help you determine how much your company may be able to save on energy costs using the latest proven advancements in industrial chiller technology.

For more information, visit https://www.sterlco.com/product/high-efficiency-central-chillers/

To arrange a free on site consultation, you can reach us by email at marketing@acscorporate.com.

ABOUT STERLING

Sterling is the front runner in temperature control units for plastics and industrial applications. For more than 100 years, Sterling and the Sterlco® brands have been synonymous with dependable temperature control for applications in plastics, food and beverage, pharmaceutical, and many other industries.

Sterling has grown to be a market leader across a broad range of auxiliary equipment for the plastics industry, leading the way in chillers and process cooling, material handling, and granulators.

Sterling brings a century of experience, providing our customers with premium value and quality.

For more information,
visit www.sterlco.com
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High Efficiency Central Chiller