

Panadol IMA Machine Guarding



The Project

GSK manufacture and supply pharmaceuticals and are leaders in medical and scientific research and development. Following an OHS audit, it was found that some machine guarding needed to be replaced in order to comply with new regulations and to further minimise air borne particle contamination.

Australis were engaged to design and configure new machine guarding for their fully automated Panadol manufacturing and packaging facility. Requirements for the new guarding include:

- Compliance with new OHS regulations,
- User friendly guarding, ie easy to clean and access the machines for maintenance,
- A design that is efficient and safe for GSK personnel to use.

Finding a workable solution was a challenge as the machines were not intended to be used fully enclosed and needed to remain completely serviceable with minimal removal of the guards to ensure that current servicing times could be maintained. Another constraint was to maintain or improve visibility of the product where possible and ensure maximum stability and integrity in the construction of the guards, while at minimum, maintaining the production rate of the machine or improving it if possible.

OHS Conformance



Aluminium Profile

Machine Guarding



The Result

Australis designed, manufactured and installed five (5) unique, fully enclosed OHS compliant machinery guards using aluminium profile. While the five lines were generally similar, each line posed a unique challenge with several special features such as custom door shapes, complex out-shoot designs and customised tunnel sections required. Each guard was constructed with a fully removable side to allow easy servicing by GSK and to minimise downtime. Benefits of using Aluminium Profile in this application include:

- Ability to quickly and easily modify each design due to the adaptability of the profile system,
- Structural integrity of the guard resulting from the structural integrity of the profile itself,
- Slimline and lightweight with anodised finish for clean room application,
- Easily fitted with clear lexan panels to allow maximum visibility of the machine and Panadol product.
- Fabricated in modular sections for easy transportation and installation while also keeping installation times to a minimum.

As a result the five lines are now fully comply with OHS guidelines and maintain existing machine outputs but with decreased servicing downtime due to the improved access.

Aluminium Profile

The success of the GSK Panadol machinery guarding project results from the use of Aluminium Profile. Aluminium Profile is a highly adaptable and user friendly material. It has a high strength to weight ratio and almost infinite uses. The hard wearing anodised finish makes using aluminium profile a first choice in clean room environments where cleanliness needs to be guaranteed. Importantly the unique connecting system greatly reduces fabrication time by eliminating the need to weld and paint steel and with reduced labour costs, many solutions are cheaper than a comparable steel solution. The flexible connecting systems also permits any design to be built in a modular format allowing easier and faster onsite installation and modifications, resulting in further cost savings.

Client:
GlaxoSmithKline

Location:
Ermington NSW
Australia

Machine guard

Aluminium profile

Custom design

OHS compliant

Easy maintenance
access

Excellent visibility
maintains machine
operation

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