Cleanroom for O-Ring Manufacturing & Packaging

Location: Lexington, KY

Application: Cleanroom (ISO 7 & ISO 8)

Product: Series 300 with FRP Fire & Sound Panels

Benefits Provided:

• A complete, turn-key solution through PortaFab’s existing network of cleanroom contractors.

• Multiple clean environments in which to contain each stage of the manufacturing process from initial mixing to product packaging.

• ISO 7 (Class 10,000) classification.

THE SITUATION

Parker O-Ring Division, a branch of Parker-Hannifin, is a developer, manufacturer and worldwide supplier of precision-engineered o-rings used in a variety of industries from automotive to semiconductor processing. Based on PortaFab’s expertise in the cleanroom industry, and their desire to penetrate new markets in the medical and aerospace industries, Parker reached out to our distributor to discuss the installation of a cleanroom enclosure at their manufacturing facility in Lexington, KY.

The new cleanroom environment would contain multiple rooms, separated, in order to facilitate clean manufacturing at each stage of product development including initial compound mixing, to molding, washing and final packaging of the product. The entire cleanroom facility would need to be designed to meet an ISO 7 (Class 10,000) classification in order to meet the standards and requirements in place for manufacturing this particular product.

“I have to give total credit to PortaFab for shipping out all of the wall systems and components which were pre-engineered to precise measurements in order to ease a fairly complex installation. I also owe a big thank you to my ceiling installer, who came with a wealth of experience and provided a lot of insight about special considerations needed for the construction of this type of environment. Parker was so impressed with our work that they referred us to one of their clients, who requested a similar environment to be installed at their manufacturing facility.” - PortaFab’s Distributor

THE EVALUATION

Due to the complexity of this project, there were many initial pre-construction meetings and joint-sales calls between our distributor, PortaFab and the client in order to evaluate all the parameters and requirements.

The facility would need to maintain positive pressure, featuring a recirculating airflow design with the air circulating at 60 times per minute. The wall systems used would need to provide enough durability to stand up to regular wipe downs and cleaning protocols as well as house equipment pass-throughs to ease the transfer of the final packaged products out of the cleanroom.

THE SOLUTION

Due to their existing network of cleanroom contractors, PortaFab was able to supply its distributor with multiple resources in order to provide a complete turn-key solution for the client. The cleanroom complex consisted of two 3-wall structures on either side of an existing concrete wall to form one large environment (40’6” x 32’ x 12’ tall). Our distributor utilized a composite panel as an economical solution to clad both sides of the existing concrete wall and fully contain the environment inside.

Our Series 300 product line was used to construct the rest of the enclosure and multiple interior rooms based on its ease of cleanability and appearance. The fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) panels offered the durability required in order to withstand the repeated wipe-down and cleaning protocols required. Our client was extremely impressed with our distributor’s work and the look of their new cleanroom. They later referred our distributor to a client who requested a similar environment to be installed at their manufacturing facility.