

**CASE STUDY**

# SERVING A SLICE OF INSIGHT.

**WALKERS DELI AND SAUSAGE CO**

How RS Industria is helping a leading cooked meat company keep a critical asset chilled.

MAY 2023



**RS-INDUSTRIA.COM**

# CUSTOMER OVERVIEW

Walkers Deli and Sausage Co are one of the largest producers of premium sausage in the UK. As specialists in the manufacture of sliced cooked meats since 1824, Leicester-based Walkers is now part of Samworth Brothers, home of leading brands such as Ginsters, Soreen, and the West Cornwall Pasty Company.



# BENEFITS SUMMARY



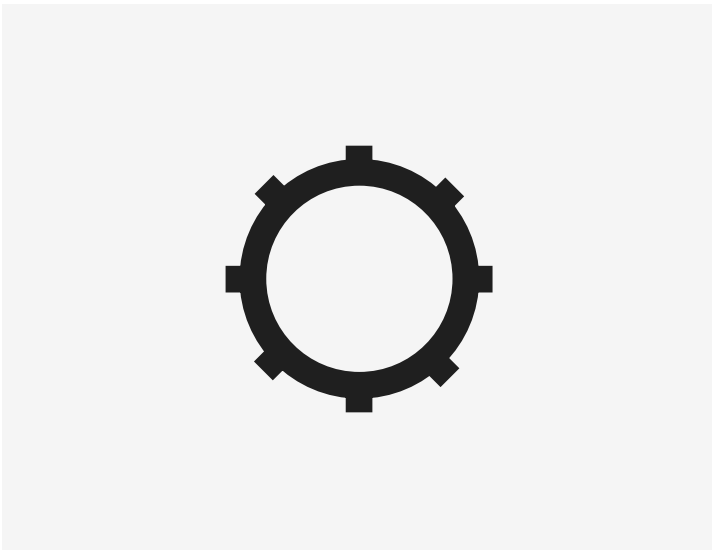
## REAL TIME ASSET MONITORING

Vibration sensors continuously monitor refrigeration compressors, enabling condition-based maintenance.



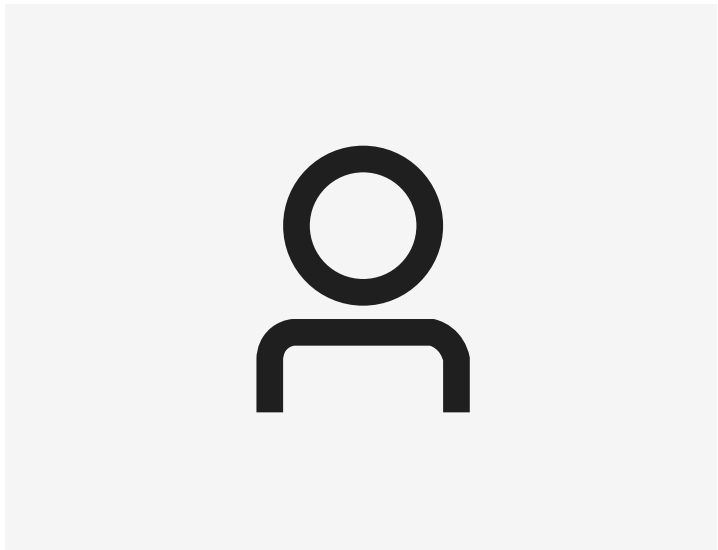
## EARLY DETECTION OF ISSUES

Abnormal vibrations on compressor No.3 were detected, allowing for timely maintenance, preventing a potential breakdown and production loss.



## ENHANCED MAINTENANCE PLANNING

Real-time data allows for forward maintenance planning and continued controlled use of critical assets.



## USER-FRIENDLY SYSTEM

Straightforward and easy to use, with support from RS Industria solutions engineers.

**POTENTIAL SAVING OF 7 TONNES OF WASTED PRODUCT**

# THE PROBLEM

For food manufacturers, the chilling and freezing plant is key to production and F&B industry compliance.

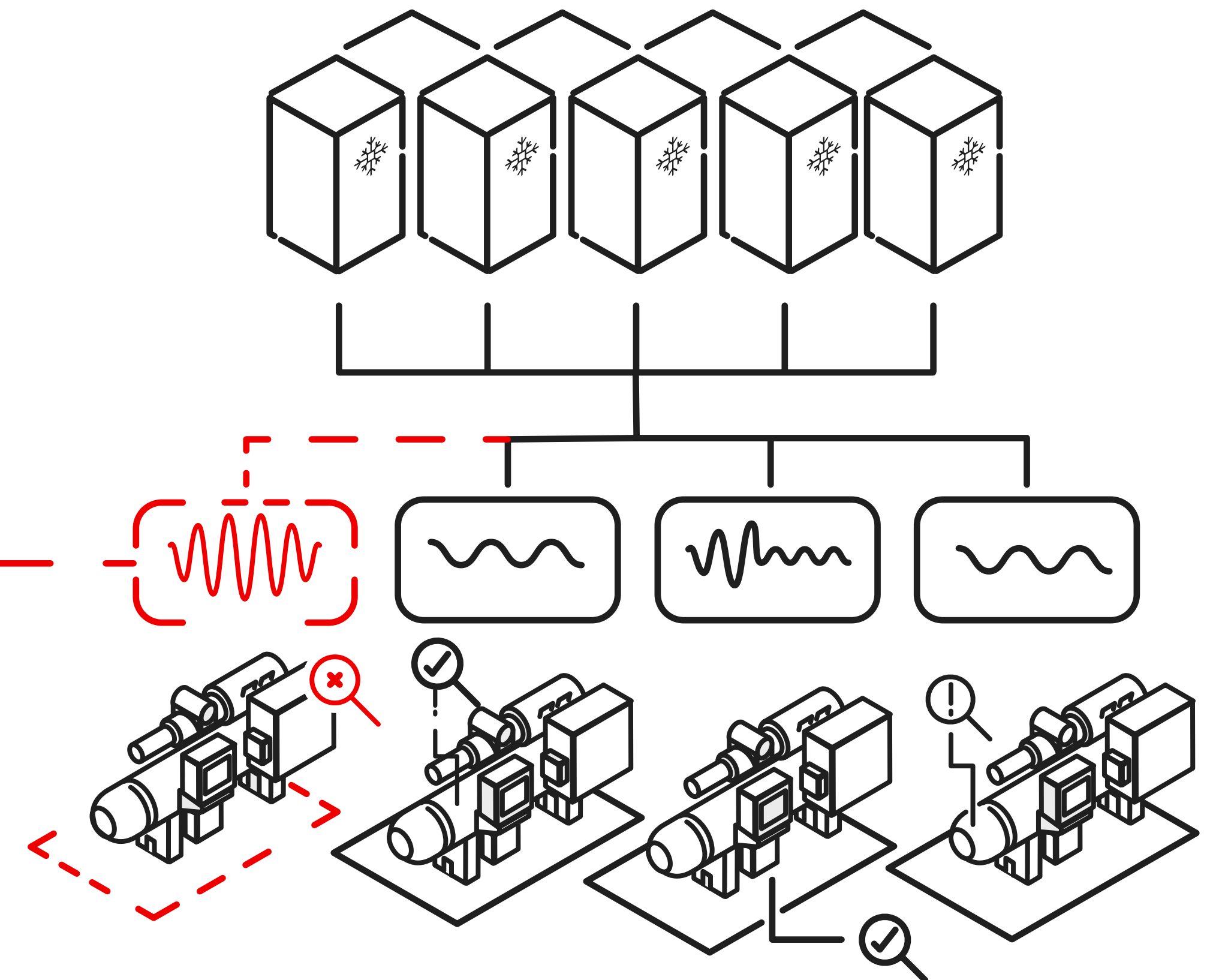
Walkers' site is home to four refrigeration compressors, which are used to cool a number of blast chillers. This ensures products are kept fresh and that a compliant chill chain is maintained.

If all the blast chillers are in use, three compressors are required. However, due to the critical importance of chilling in maintaining production, the site has a backup in the event of failure with an additional fourth compressor.

*This approach proved its worth when one of the compressors failed and had to be replaced.*

With a two-month delivery lead-time for the new compressor, the remaining three would be in continuous use.

Acutely aware of their potential exposure to another breakdown that could seriously affect production, and with limited insight into the condition of the remaining compressors, site engineers needed a quick, innovative, and affordable solution that could continuously monitor asset performance and avert potential issues.



**“STRAIGHTFORWARD, EVERYTHING IS SELF-EXPLANATORY, AND IT HAS GREAT TOOLS”**

**REMI SCUCKIS | SITE SERVICES SUPERVISOR**

## THE SOLUTION

The modular build, flexibility, and resulting insight offered by RS Industria made it the ideal solution. RS Industria’s solutions engineers worked closely with Walkers’ site team to tailor the best approach.

Vibration sensors for each compressor were located on the compressor heads and drive motors, which enabled the customer to receive detailed vibration information on bearings and drive shafts.

The resulting data means the site’s engineering team can now continuously monitor performance in real-time and use the insight to plan for condition-based maintenance.

## THE OUTCOME

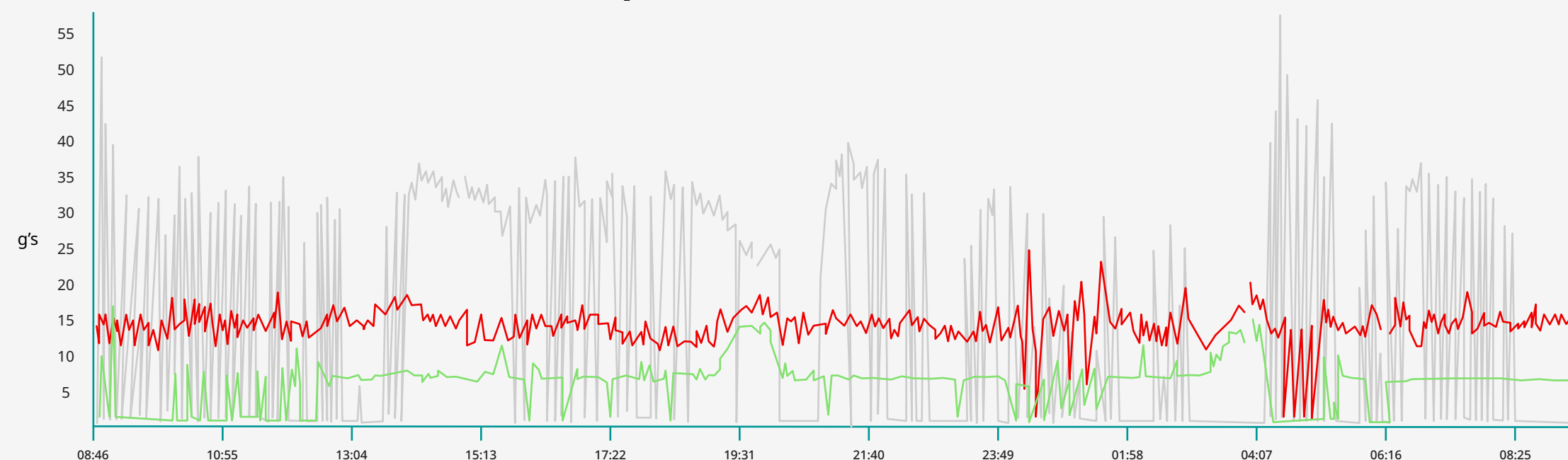
Within hours of the installation, an abnormal level of vibration was detected on the drive motor of one of the compressors.

While it meant the asset wouldn’t fail immediately, engineers were able to closely monitor the compressor for any further degradation while they waited for the new compressor to be delivered.

Once the new compressor was installed, engineers could take the faulty compressor offline for maintenance and repair, while keeping it onsite and available as a backup for the other compressors should it be required.

Had the asset failed, the consequences would have been costly for the customer, with the product within the line at the time of failure being thrown away and the compressor out of action for a significant period of time.

**C1 Head Compressor - overall acceleration**






## THE LESSONS

Until the installation of RS Industria, Walkers had limited insight into the condition of their refrigeration compressors.

## NEXT STEPS

Now, with the detailed continuous data provided by the platform, they can run condition-based maintenance on these critical assets.

For the site engineers, the data has proved to be useful and, in their own words, has delivered value from day one. Indeed, the insight has proved so valuable other areas of the business have expressed an interest in using RS Industria to monitor the reliability of the packing lines, ovens, and another set of refrigeration compressors, and exploring its potential use to reduce energy costs.

A portrait of Liam Cope, an Engineering Specialist at Walkers, wearing a black jacket with the Walkers Deli & Sausage Co. logo. The background is a textured, light-colored wall.

**“ I THINK THE SYSTEM IS REALLY EASY TO USE, IT HAS BEEN THE EASIEST TO PICK UP OF A NUMBER OF SYSTEMS.”**

**LIAM COPE | ENGINEERING SPECIALIST**





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