

# CUSTOM SOLUTION CASE STUDY

## Long Life Cylinder for Blow Mold Machine



### APPLICATION:

#### *Plastic Container Blow Molding*

Hydraulic cylinders are used on the mold lift of a blow molding machine.

### CHALLENGE:

#### *Quickly Wearing Cylinder Seals and Delays in Obtaining Replacement Cylinders Caused Excessive Downtime*

PHD's blow molding customer noted that the seals on the OEM cylinder wore very quickly during regular operation and caused leaks, necessitating repair or replacement of the cylinder. The OEM replacement cylinder was stocked at one U.S. location of the blow molding company and was shipped on a first come, first served basis to all the customers' locations throughout the U.S. If the replacement cylinder was not in stock at the one U.S. location, there was significant lead time to source the parts from the overseas OEM. Both the frequent replacement and the sourcing delays were pain points for the customer that needed to be addressed.

### SOLUTION:

#### *A Drop-In Cylinder to Reduce Replacement Frequency and Improve Lead Time*

PHD's Custom Solutions and Sales teams joined forces with the blow molding company's engineers to design a drop-in replacement for the OEM cylinder. PHD's solution improved upon the OEM design to prevent seal wear, thus reducing the frequency with which the cylinder required replacement. PHD's U.S.-based manufacturing and short lead times provide quick deliveries when a replacement may be required.

### RESULTS:

#### *Increased Uptime and Improved Sourcing*

PHD's customer has realized longer life from the cylinders, leading to increased uptime in its operation for optimal return on investment. When the cylinder does need to be replaced, the customer is able to get PHD's drop-in replacement in a shorter timeframe than that of the OEM.

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