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Improve Machine Efficiency with Seals and Gaskets by Maria Gini

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All gaskets manufacturers know that some gasket designs entail the use of a sealant directly on the gasket surface for it to function properly. Seals and gaskets play a special role in the operating safety of automobiles and various industrial applications. Gaskets are commonly produced by cutting from sheet materials, such as gasket paper, rubber, silicone, metal, cork, felt, neoprene, nitrile rubber, fiberglass, polytetrafluoroethylene (otherwise known as PTFE) or a plastic polymer (such as polychlorotrifluoroethylene).

Usually gaskets need to be yielding to a degree and gasket manufacturers try and keep this property in mind when deciding on which material is the most appropriate. Where seals and gaskets need to be made of metal, the metalâ€™s own spring characteristics are utilized. Where a gasket is made of compressed fiber material, it is desirable that it should have the ability to withstand high compressive loads. There are several ways to measure a gasket materialâ€™s ability to withstand compressive loading of which the hot compression test is probably the most accepted.

In applications where the efficacy of the seals and gaskets are make or break parameters, gasket manufacturers opt for spiral wound gaskets which comprise of a mix of metallic and filler material. Generally, the gasket has a metal (normally carbon rich or stainless steel) wound outwards in a circular spiral (other shapes are possible) with the filler material (generally a flexible graphite) wound in the same manner but starting from the opposing side. Such gaskets allow lower clamping forces than solid gaskets though they are pricier. Depending on your specific tooling needs, you might ask the gasket manufacturer to use polyvinyl, polyethylene neoprene, anti-bacterial and flame retardant materials, and even combinations of materials.

The choice of material for seals and gaskets might even determine your machineâ€™s efficiency. Remember, the wrong kind of material might even ruin your machinery. That is why experienced gasket manufacturers take into account gasket type your machine or your product needs, your budgetary and time constraints when they recommend a design and the materials for use.

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Clifton Rubber is a leading manufacturer of various rubber products, which include dock buffer, solid tyres and a steel rollers. They also offer services like a gasket manufacturers and a spiral rollers.

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