



RK RUBBER®
CUSTOM PARTS FABRICATOR



Ready, Set, Ship...

We've got the experience & we've got the stories (wink)! When we get your order, we'll bang out your deliverables. We're time tested.

THE ADVENTURES OF **RK RUBBER!** **MAN!**



Case Study #137789
"WEST COAST SEALS ARE TOO BIG"
Shorten and re-splice
in 24 HOURS!
Or we're chum.



West Coast Seals are in danger!



What happens when large cross-section seals are too large in diameter for the job!

Nobody likes bad seals!

Can you say-
EXTREME MAKE-OVER!



DAY 1

Shipment of wrong size product arrives



DAY 2

With the precision of a plastic surgeon, RK Rubberman nips and tucks the size challenged seals into place!

Fixed product ships within 24 hours!

HAPPY CUSTOMER!



The customer's seals were **FIXED** in time... **AND** more importantly, West Coast Seal fabrication migrated to the midwest!



Saved the day **AND** Sealed the deal!

RK Rubber... Experience = Solutions

CASE STUDY
Sifters for Food and Beverage Industry

RK Rubber has over 115 years of experience in developing rubberized solutions that can withstand corrosive environments, especially in the food and beverage industry. Maintaining FDA compliance is always a top priority and we have the technology, training, and knowledge to custom engineer products that can always meet demanding food and beverage processing standards. We were approached by a customer in the Midwest who required a flex connector that could not only withstand abrasion, but also retain static charge build-up at the connector's point of friction.

We selected FDA pure gum rubber which is a popular choice for food production. However, we still had to overcome the challenge of electrostatic build-up. We leveraged our splitting expertise and vulcanizer equipment to integrate wire into each of the sleeves. This would help ground the sleeves and prevent static build-up while allowing the sleeve to retain its original form, flexibility, and strength. The connectors were fabricated in lengths ranging from 24" to 108" in widths of 4", 6", 8", and 10" diameters.

From concept design and prototyping to final installation, the process was completed in only 19 working days. We utilized superior materials and state-of-the-art fabrication techniques in order to meet our customer's requirements. As a result of our sleeve design, the customer immediately experienced improved service life, less downtime, and significant cost savings. They continue to order our connector sleeves and we have since broadened our manufacturing process in order to deliver them within 3 working days.

"GROW YOUR OWN!"

Working directly with staff at their Wisconsin facility, our initial prototype consisted of a blue tarp and duct tape that helped us test and determine the sleeve's required shape. The idea was to protect the robot while they were suspended from the ceiling. Chilling greets the prototype shroud draped underneath the robot as it performed its routine. The space created between the robot and shroud allowed the unit to continue

operations unshowered while shielded from the elements. The initial tests were a resounding success and ultimately helped us determine the shroud's final shape and position. For the shroud's material, we selected pure gum rubber with a smooth finish, well known for its abrasion resistance. Using our longitudinal splitting process, we fabricated shroud covers that featured dimensions of 7' high and 48" in diameter. Each shroud was produced in house using our state-of-the-art latex, vulcanizer, and grommet tooling. From initial concept design and testing to final manufacturing, our

team was able to develop a prototype cover within 3 weeks. We prevented, and in most cases eliminated, premature failure that had occurred while each robot performed its duty along the production line. Our customer was impressed by our creative thinking and quickly expanded the use of our shrouds in each of their facility locations. They now order up to 40 shrouds per year and we continue to help them develop ways to protect other equipment, maximize production efficiency, and improve their bottom line.

RK RUBBER EST. 1898 FABRICATING

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[Sleeve Case Study](#)

CASE STUDY
Robot Shrouds for Foundry Industry

At RK Rubber, we work collaboratively with our customers to develop creative, out-of-the-box solutions in order to protect their equipment while operating in extreme environments. This is especially true for the foundry industry, where we designed, tested, and manufactured shroud covers for our customer's robotic stations operating in extreme heat, sand, and water splatters. Each robot system ranged from \$50,000 to \$80,000 in cost. The original protector covers consistently failed, causing expensive equipment damage and ongoing maintenance that resulted in significant downtime. While several other rubber vendors were contacted, none of them were able to offer an effective solution.

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[Shrouds Case Study](#)

CASE STUDY
Super-Sized Construction Gaskets

At RK Rubber, we excel at developing super-sized rubber solutions for mission-critical projects. Many rubber fabricators in our industry do not have the correct equipment, so they brought us on-board to help solve their issue.

They asked us to design and fabricate a super-sized rubber gasket with a 14" OD and a 10" ID. Gaskets of this magnitude cannot be made in a press due to eventual splitting failure. In addition to its massive size, the gasket had to perform in extreme conditions where extreme high pressure water, mud, rock, and debris would pass it. The gasket would ultimately be used for deep tunnel boring machines during big dig projects. We understood that 400' type of gasket failure could result in massive construction delays and wasted municipal dollars. This was a one-off job and it required thorough design and exceptional craftsmanship. Using diligent engineering and intricate fabrication techniques, our team successfully created a 148" OD gasket with six rubber segments that were each made from 17" thick neoprene stock.

We leveraged an array of fabrication and vulcanization processes to meet our customer's requirements. In addition, all of our work was performed under a tight deadline of less than two weeks. We also assisted them with developing a suitable transportation plan that ensured the gasket would arrive on-site as quickly as possible. The project was a resounding success, and we continue to assist them with large-scale gasket manufacturing for various municipal construction projects.

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[Gasket Case Study](#)



EXPERIENCE = SOLUTIONS



RK Rubber offers immediate phone quotes. Contact us today!
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