

CASE STUDY

GLASS DUST



FARR GOLD SERIES® CLEAR CHOICE FOR GLASS FABRICATOR

PRODUCT

Product	Farr Gold Series Dust and Fume Collector
Model	(2) Model GS4 and (1) Model GS2
Application	Glass Dust
Customer	Viracon, Inc — Owatonna, MN
Install Date	1997, 1999

CHALLENGE

Viracon, Inc. is an architectural glass fabrication company with locations in the US and Brazil.

“We’re using a dry seaming system. We use silicon carbide or aluminum carbide belts at high speed to take the sharp edges off the glass that’s just been cut,” explained Chuck Wencil, process engineer at Viracon. As a result, glass, silicon carbide, and aluminum carbide particles were being released into the atmosphere. “We didn’t want the dust to be all over the plant,” Wencil continued, “It would infiltrate the other processes.”

Viracon was undergoing a transition from a wet application to a dry application, which made dust collection an even higher priority. To remedy their problem, Viracon installed competitor’s dust collection systems. “You would rake the bags to shake some of the dust out,” Wencil noted. “You had to do everything manually.” This manual interaction wasted valuable time, cutting worker efficiency.

The ideal system would be, as Wencil mentioned, “One unit to handle more than one seaming application that was automated so that people didn’t have to continuously clean it.”



▲ One GS4 unit that helped Viracon transition from a wet to a dry process.

SOLUTION

A Farr Gold Series® model GS4 was installed with dust capturing at the source of the glass cutting in a contained area. The units are run during both 12-hour shifts at the facility, Wencil noted. “They run 24/7.”

Wencil applauded the Farr Gold Series' ease of maintenance saying, “They are maintenance free. Even the oldest units I have here, I've never had to replace the filters in them.” He continued, “I have spare filters in-house if I need them, but I've never had to install them.”

“It's made the manufacturing process cleaner because the units are more powerful than the older ones were,” Wencil added. “It's self-cleaning. You forget about it... It's just there all the time, doing its job.”

Since their initial purchase of the Farr Gold Series units, Viracon has also installed them in their other locations in Georgia and Utah. 🏠



▲ High speed belts trim sharp edges at this unit.



▲ Glass, aluminum carbide, and silicon carbide dusts are collected with the GS2.



▲ A GS4 is installed at another trimming unit.

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For more information for this application, contact Synergic Engineering Corp. at (507) 444-3285