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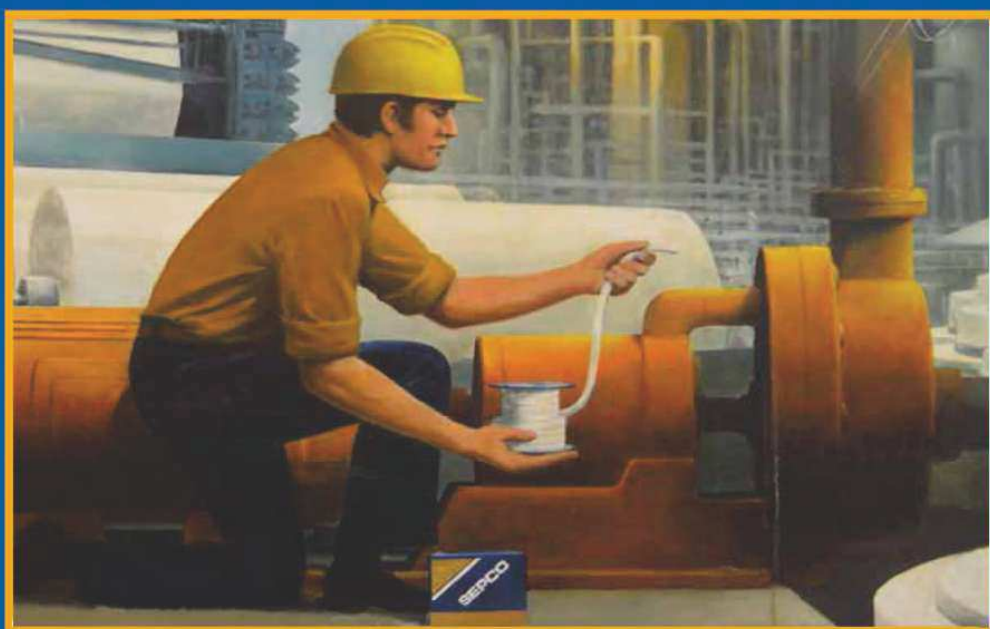
www.rodavigo.net

+34 986 288118
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SEPCO[®]

Sealing Equipment Products Co., Inc.



C O M P R E S S I O N P A C K I N G

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Introduction

Compression packing is the oldest and still most common type of sealing device used to prevent product leakage and extend the life of pumps, valves, and other rotating equipment. For decades, most packing was just lubricated vegetable fiber inserted in the stuffing box between the body of a pump or valve and its rotating member.

The 1990 Clean Air Act (CAA), along with more stringent requirements on plant water usage and effluent discharge, changed expectations about packing's role in leak prevention and water conservation.

Industrial plants, process mills, and refineries found themselves under intense regulator pressure to comply with new water usage and CAA standards. Plant managers began taking a closer look at water usage studies and creating Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) programs to combat the sources of pump and valve leakage.

The packing industry responded by experimenting with exotic fiber materials such as PTFE yarns, graphite yarns, carbon yarns, and GFO® yarns to create packing that not only complied with more stringent water usage standards, but was also able to withstand higher temperatures, faster shaft speeds, and wider pH ranges than ever before.