

SUPERIOR SERVICE ENHANCES BOURBON PRODUCTION

Overview:

In the bourbon industry, uptime is everything. Even brief cooling interruptions during fermentation can ruin an entire batch, costing significant revenue. At one of Kentucky's flagship distilleries, repeated service failures from the existing chiller supplier created unacceptable risk. The units themselves were relatively new, only six years old, but unreliable service meant the customer could not depend on them for this critical, continuous process.

The distillery's leadership decided to make a change, turning to Daikin Applied based on prior positive service experiences. Two competitive chillers were removed and replaced with Daikin Magnitude® units, chosen for their proven efficiency, reliability and the responsive support of Daikin's Factory Service team. That successful service partnership established a new supplier relationship built on trust.

As demand grew, the customer turned to Daikin to expand production by boosting cooling efficiency, avoiding disruption and fitting equipment into a tight space.

**LOCATION:**

Shively, KY, USA

**CAPACITY:**

700 tons of additional cooling to support the production process for several hundred thousand barrels of Bourbon, annually.

**CHALLENGE:**

Support a significant production expansion with challenging space constraints for cooling equipment.

**SOLUTION:**

Two 350-ton Daikin Magnitude® Magnetic Bearing Centrifugal Chillers in a Modular Central Plant (MCP).

INDUSTRY-LEADING BOURBON DISTILLERY AND COOPERAGE



Solution:

Daikin's answer was a custom-engineered **Modular Central Plant (MCP)**, a turnkey, high-efficiency cooling solution that met space, capacity, and integration requirements in one package. The MCP featured two additional 350-ton Magnitude chillers, complementing the two already in service inside the facility.

Built off-site under controlled conditions, the MCP came fully enclosed with pumps, piping, controls, and chillers pre-assembled. Once trucked to the distillery, it was set on a purpose-built concrete pad and connected quickly, avoiding costly and disruptive renovations to the existing mechanical room.

Daikin's Factory Service team oversaw every phase, from excavation and pad preparation to utility connections and commissioning, ensuring a smooth installation and minimal on-site labor.

The Magnitude chillers' oil-free, magnetic bearing compressor technology delivers reliable, low-maintenance operation with exceptional energy efficiency and quiet performance. Their compact footprint fit perfectly within the constrained outdoor space, while their load flexibility maintained the precise temperature control essential to bourbon fermentation. The MCP also included a coordinated cooling tower installation, completing the process loop without affecting the interior workspace.



Outcome:

The MCP allowed the distillery to boost production without sacrificing space, efficiency, or operational continuity and reinforced Daikin Applied as the exclusive supplier and service provider for this iconic bourbon producer. Few outcomes speak louder than repeat business, especially when it comes at the expense of a competitor's relatively new equipment.

What began as an urgent supplier change driven by poor competitor service evolved into a long-term partnership anchored in performance and trust. In total, four Magnitude chillers were deployed: two replacing the competitive units and two as part of the MCP expansion.

