

Cooling Holding Bin (CHB)

Patent No.JP6541863

Quick Cooling Device of Granular Powder (by Vacuum)



Industry First!

Sodick Co., Ltd., Food Machinery Division (2019/July)

What is CHB?

A device to quickly cool Powdery and granular raw materials of food homogeneously.

To improve and stabilize dough quality control in producing bread, cookie, noodle.







Powdery Raw Material
Corn, Flour, Rice, Potato,
Sweet Potato, etc

Granular Raw Material Sugar, Salt, Rice, Soy Bean, etc







Cookie



Noodle

Why Granular Materials Need to Be Cooled?



In the case of Flour of High-temperature:

Sticky and expandable gluten (protein) is formed

when kneaded with added water.

Added water does not permeate evenly well, thus affecting the quality of final product.





Dough Temperature 27°C Dough Temperature 15°C

Water mixed evenly

because of lower temperature

Traditional Cooling Method

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By Air Conditioning

Reducing the production site temperature to keep low the raw material's temperature.

By Use of Cold Water

Using chilled water (water is easy to be Temperature-controlled).

This method is common.

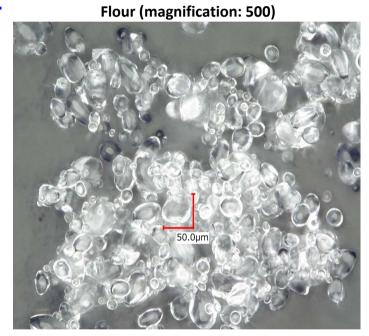


Why Is Quick and Homogeneous Cooling of Granular Materials Difficult?



Low Heat Transfer ⇔ Quick Temperature Control is Difficult.

- Tiny powdery particles only have point-to-point contacts between each one, not giving enough contact area for heat transfer.
- Heat transfer rate of these materials is originally low.
- Almost impossible to run cooled air through evenly as it is a mass of tiny particles stuck together.



⇒ Traditional Cooling Method by Heat Transfer requires a long time of cooling process, and is a bottleneck in production efficiency while not guaranteeing homogeneous cooling.

CHB Principle



By forcibly vaporizing part of the moisture content of the granular material,

Latent Heat Exchange is used for cooling.

Analogy: Water-sprinkling the garden to cool the atmosphere temperature, or feeling cool when antiseptic alcohol is rubbed on your arm before injection.



Watersprinkling on a hot summer day



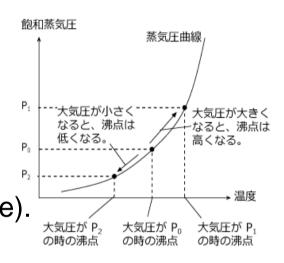


How Does Water Vaporization Happen?

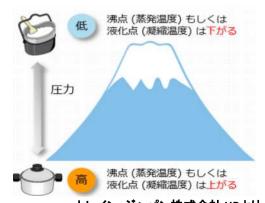
- By virtue of a lowered water boiling point temperature in below-the-atomosphere-pressure, perform vaporization forcibly under reduced pressure (set to below saturated steam pressure of target temperature).
- Reduced pressure permeates throughout the mass of granular particles
- → Kneading will be perfect (the moisture content of the material will be affected to reduce by 1.0 ~ 1.5% only).

Analogy: In high mountains where it is below normal atomospheric pressure, rice cannot be cooked well and tasty due to the lowering of water boiling point.





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Benefits of CHB



- Cooling a mass of granular particles homogeneously by latent heat exchange of part of moisture contained in the material.
- Pressure reduction permeates throughout the mass because materials are powdery or granular.
- → Stress on the material is minimum because
 the process is performed at a lower temperature than
 normal, and almost no changes to material characteristics.

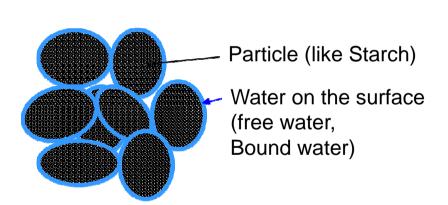


Phenomenon during Pressure Reduction

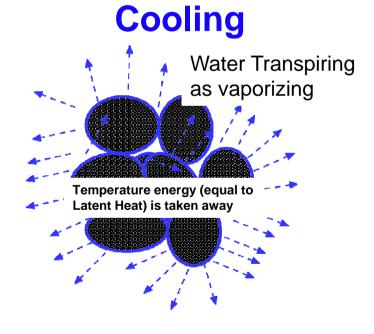


When reducing pressure, the moisture on the surface of material particles vaporizes taking away heat energy

→ Particles temperature will decrease (Cooling).







Conditions of Particles and Water, comprising granular material

Water Vaporizing and Transpiring under lower pressure

Test Data

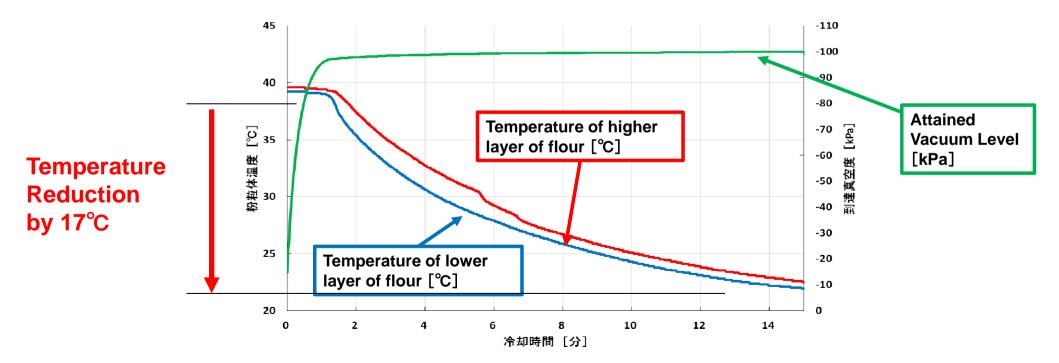


Material used: Flour (medium-strength flour)

• Input: 125kg

• Test Method: Applying Vacuum Cooling to Flour of approx. 40°C for 15 minutes

⇒ Flour Temperature reduced to 17°C evenly after a short time (15 minutes).



Most Effective for Below Materials



Food Materials

- Containing Free Water of over a few %,
- Granular Particle Mass, allowing Vacuum Conditions to permeate throughout the mass, (Option for Mixing or Non-mixing)

Materials tested as Effective

Flour, Buckwheat Flour, Rice Flour, Rice Grain, Buckwheat Seed, Soy Bean, and others.

