



THE BLUE AGAVE plant, agave azul, is used for producing genuine tequila.

A drive for a **national symbol**

» FIRST IN THE WORLD WITH A HYDRAULIC
DRIVE IN **TEQUILA PRODUCTION.**

One new and rather unusual installation is a drive that Hägglunds recently delivered to one of the world's biggest tequila manufacturers, Casa Cuervo, in Mexico.

"We're very proud to be the first in the world to supply drive systems to a tequila producer," says Tomas Kallin, project manager for the Sugar business area.

MEXICO IS A BIG producer of sugar and over the last twelve years Hägglunds Drives has supplied several big drives to sugar mills in the country.

"In the last two years the trend started to be shifted towards alcohol production and tequila manufacturers have been sho-

wing a growing interest in our drives," says Tomas Kallin.

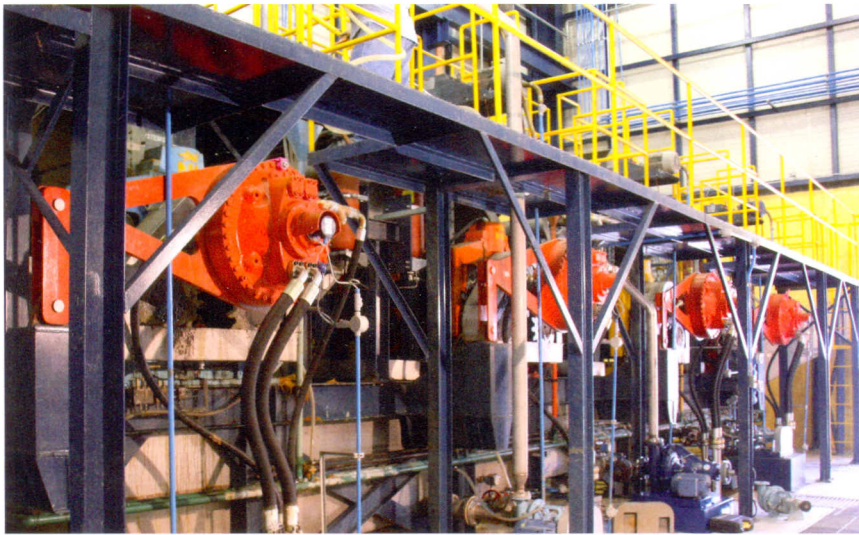
Larger capacity

The installation at Casa Cuervo took place in January this year and includes four CB280 motors, two PEC pump units and a PLC control system. The motors drive the mills that crush the agave to squeeze the juice from the plant, in a process similar to sugar production.

"The installation works perfectly, and the customer has set a new production record with our drives," says Tomas Kallin with satisfaction.

The capacity of the section of the plant where the Hägglunds' motors are now installed is around 15 tonnes of agave per





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Juliusz Lewinski,
Häggglunds Drives'
representative in Mexico

hour, which produces around 2,250 litres of tequila. This compares well with the older section of the plant, which uses traditional electro-mechanical drives and has a capacity of around 11 tonnes of agave per hour.

Long-term investment

The main advantages of the hydraulic drives are reliability and the fact that they make it much easier to control the processes.

“The hydraulic drives mean a bigger financial investment, but are profitable in the long term because of their stability and long life,” explains Tomas Kallin.

Juliusz Lewinski has been Häggglunds Drives’ representative in Mexico for the past ten years. He was previously project manager of the first national project in Mexico that aimed to modernize tequila production without losing the flavor quality, the program Academy – Industry.

“I’ve always had a very good relationship with Manufacturera 3M, which is

an OEM down here. Because Häggglunds’ drives have worked so well in the sugar mills they have also wanted to try them in tequila production for some time. Manufacturera 3M have plans to build a large number of tequila factories in Mexico in the future. The Mexican government is very interested in the development of tequila industry as tequila is an important symbol of this country and the new production plant at Casa

Cuervo, where our drives are installed, is supposed to be officially inaugurated by the President of Mexico very soon,” says Juliusz Lewinski.

Since the installation, Casa Cuervo have asked for a further tender for a hydraulic drive for a new tequila production line.

“This more than anything shows that they are pleased with what we have already delivered,” says Tomas Kallin. ■



TOMAS KALLIN,
Project Manager.



THE FINEST TEQUILA is stored in oak casks for at least three years.