



# SCORPION<sup>®</sup> Case Study: Clogged Air Knife

7 Corporate Blvd., Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania 19608 USA

Phone: 610-678-5890 Fax: 610-693-6262

Email: [information@readingthermal.com](mailto:information@readingthermal.com)

[www.readingthermal.com](http://www.readingthermal.com)



READING THERMAL

# Clogged Air Knife

**Product:** Chicken Breast Fillets



**Plant:** Chicken Processor - Southern U.S.

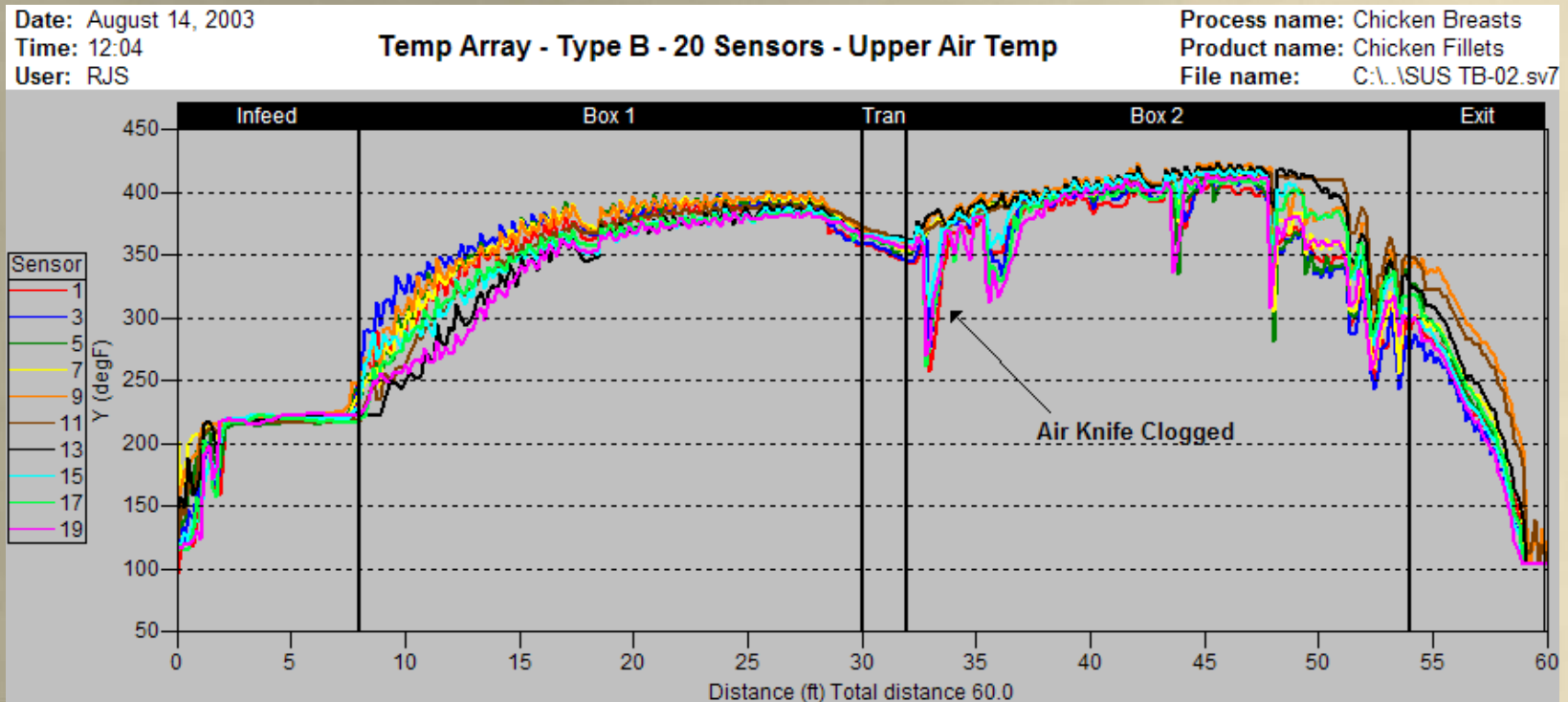
**Problem:** The company is having trouble producing chicken fillets with a consistent bake, causing low yields. A side-to-side and over-time variation in bake occurs sporadically during production runs.

***What is the cause of the variation?***



# Clogged Air Knife

**Analysis:** Temperature profiling reveals large temperature drops ( $>100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) across the band at 32ft into the process, just inside the entrance of Heat Box 2.



# Clogged Air Knife

**Solution:** Physical inspection revealed that an air knife was clogged with product debris. The clog occurs after 2-3 hours of production.

Air knife cleaned and unclogged.

