



# Timken® self-aligning mounted tapered roller bearings improve performance and reliability

## Challenge

As the only location making the COVID-19 vaccine in Europe, the company's facility in Puurs, Belgium, relies on cooling towers to keep temperatures just right during production and bottling. When the COVID-19 vaccine manufacturer experienced frequent cooling tower downtime due to failure of a competitor's mounted ball bearings, the cooling tower manufacturer turned to Timken for a new bearing solution.

## Timken Solution

Our engineering team determined that overloading and misalignment were the main challenges facing this cooling tower application. To improve bearing performance, Timken self-aligning mounted tapered roller bearings were installed as an aftermarket solution. These optimized bearings are engineered to accept up to  $\pm 4$  degrees of misalignment while managing both radial and axial loads – making them an ideal solution for the challenges faced in this application.

## Results That Matter

After replacing the mounted ball bearings with Timken self-aligning mounted tapered roller bearings, bearing performance easily surpassed the competitor's maximum service life of three months – with no signs of vibration or degradation. And when the cooling tower manufacturer delivered four new cooling towers to the COVID-19 vaccine manufacturer, Timken bearings were included as original equipment.

