

# How a Cornstarch Producer Eliminated a Dust Cleaning Nightmare



## An Unreasonable Amount of Clean-Up Time

In a Georgia factory, employees work day after day to produce cornstarch. Unknown to many, the production of cornstarch creates a lot of combustible dust in facilities in the United States. Used mostly for food but also in wax for textiles, cleaning products, and even pharmaceuticals, this material has a fine texture and creates powder-like dust that travels easily and is especially difficult to control.

According to the plant manager in this plant, employees were cleaning as much as two hours every day to maintain dust compliance in their facility. After cleaning every day for several weeks, they still saw an inch or more of accumulation in the rafters.

In order to clean that up, they had to ask employees to come in every couple of weeks, on the weekend, to manually clean the facility's dust build-up with air hoses and brooms. These cleanings would take two days, during which the facility was essentially shut down - no production at all. And the employees conducting these cleanings were paid overtime, or double time, making the expense of their dust management even higher.

The air quality in the facility, even with all the above-mentioned cleaning efforts, was visibly poor. Lights in the facility highlighted dust particles in the air. It was a constant reminder for employees of their struggle with combustible dust.

## Increased Safety. Noticeable Difference.

After installing their SonicAire fan system, the company noticed a stark difference. Mandatory overtime for dust cleaning became a thing of the past. And those two-hour daily clean-ups were no longer necessary.





“ Since we’ve installed the fans, it’s been phenomenal - we don’t spend any time cleaning up, and we don’t have to worry about dust explosions or anything like that. ”

This change has kept the company from paying steep overtime costs and allowed them to operate more efficiently without cleaning shutdowns.

The air quality in the facility has also seen a significant upgrade. After installing SonicAire fans, there is almost no dust in the air. The plant manager noted, “It’s gotten a lot better. I mean, you could see it [cornstarch dust] coming through the air. Now you can’t.”

Cleaner work conditions have improved the facility’s safety as well as workers’ overall morale. When they could see the dust, it was a consistent reminder of the combustion risk. Without the visible fugitive dust buildup, everyone in the facility has noticed an improvement.

“ When asked if he was happy overall with the fans and their results, the plant manager remarked, “Everybody is... Yeah, we love them.” ”

## The SonicAire Compliance Guarantee

We’re so confident in our products’ ability to solve your problems that we’re now offering you the SonicAire Compliance Guarantee.\*

As long as SonicAire fans are correctly installed and maintained according to our engineers’ layout/engineering recommendations, they will eliminate the need for housekeeping in hard-to-reach overhead spaces.

And if they don’t, we’ll provide a full refund on the cost of fans or reimburse the cost of any imposed fine, whichever is less.\*



\*See [SonicAire.com/Compliance-Guarantee](https://www.SonicAire.com/Compliance-Guarantee) for full details and terms.