## **DISTRIBUTOR VS. SWITCHER COMPARISON**

## Similarities and differences between two solutions that keep hydrocutting systems operating

Downtime in high volume French fry, pickle, and other vegetable cutting operations is extremely costly. Both switchers and Vanmark's patented Distributor divert product flow in hydrocutting systems to avoid any downtime from plugs or blade changeouts. But what makes them different—and the Distributor better?

The Distributor acts as a switcher to divert flow—without moving parts, product damage, or water waste—and allows you to double throughput by running two product flows simultaneously to twin hydrocutting systems or one flow to a mechanical cutter.

	DISTRIBUTOR	SWITCHER
Use Case	Divide product flow to two streams – twin hydrocutters or hydrocutter and other application (i.e. mechanical cutter) at the same time  OR  Switch flow to either stream in the event of a plug or blade changeout	Switch product flow to one of two cutterheads in the event of a plug or blade changeout
Plug Handling	Switch flow automatically	Switch flow automatically
How Flow is Diverted	Pneumatically actuated ball valves. No mechanical assist or moving parts	Pneumatic cylinders with flexible tube and sliding seal plate
Throughput	Doubled via two streams flowing simultaneously	Single stream
Maintenance	None. No moving parts	Regular replacement of parts, including: flexible tube, o-ring seals, pneumatic cylinder, sliding seal plate, oiler lines for lubricating slide plate
Water Usage	None. It remains fully sealed during operation	~1-2 gallons of leaking/splashing during switching motion unless frequently tuned
Product Damage	None. No disruption to flow due to ball valves and flow gates	Momentary damage to product in flow during mechanical switch
Supplier(s)	Vanmark (patented)	Various



