

## APPLICATION REPORT



**Providing priceless protection for pet food extruders**



As pet owners continue to value pet nutrition as high as their own, the demand for high-quality, health-conscious nutrition for our pets continues in an upward trend. This trend also includes the addition of nutrition-packed superfoods like pumpkin, chia seeds, kale, sweet potato, and honey in the food. In 2017, high quality pet food sales are expected to soar to an estimated \$30 billion in the US market. Dry dog kibble holds the major portion of these sales with other dry pet kibbles including cat and fish food holding a steady second and third place respectively.

The main ingredients in the kibble include grains, meat, fat, minerals, and vitamins. These ingredients must be ground into coarse flour in an appropriate, uniform particle size to enhance water absorption and safe cooking. The uniform particle size also enhances absorption ability of the nutrients contained in the ingredients. The most common piece of equipment used to grind the ingredients into coarse flour is the Hammer Mill.

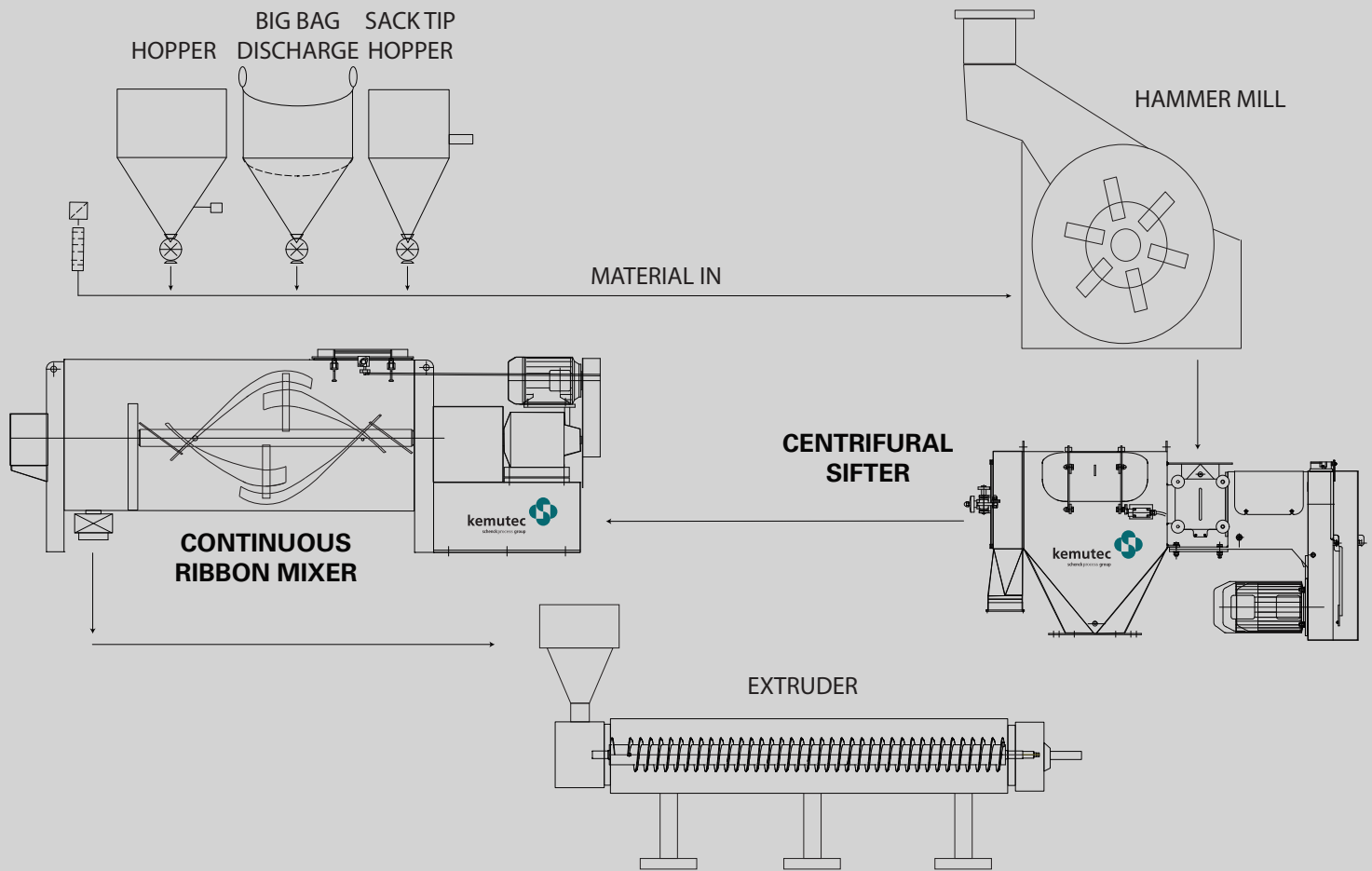
Often the coarse flour produced by the Hammer Mill contains foreign and oversize materials or has lumps and agglomerated clumps. This is how the Kek® Centrifugal Sifter provides priceless protection. It is situated in-line before the mixer and extruder to protect the integrity of the ingredients. It eliminates the foreign, agglomerated lumps prior to mixing and the extrusion. The Kek® Centrifugal Sifter protects the extruder before the dry ingredients are sent further along the production line.

It provides additional benefits to the process by ensuring no risk of product contamination from the sifting process. One Kek® Centrifugal Sifter can serve several supply points, while they are also totally self-contained providing dust-free operation. They also are reliable, low maintenance and economical to run.

After processing through the sifter, the next step includes the mixing of raw dry and wet ingredients into a dough. The ingredients are generally combined in a large Gardner Ribbon Mixer. The dough is then cooked in an Expander with pressurized steam and fed through an extruder, cut into pieces and dried. After drying, the kibble is enrobed with a spray of fat, oils, and flavoring to enhance the nutritional value and palatability of the pet food.

Each piece of equipment in the process line provides a key part in the production of high-quality pet food. The Kek® Centrifugal Sifter delivers priceless protection in the process by removing extraneous material, oversize particles, and clumps.

## Typical Centrifugal Sifter Pet Food Extruder Protection Application



Kemutec - Part of Schenck Process Group  
130 Wharton Road  
Bristol, PA 19007  
215 788-8013  
sales.kemutec@schenckprocess.com  
www.schenckprocess.com/us