Case Study

We recommended several alternative bolt materials, which our customer considered before countering with their own suggestion, Nitronic® 60 stainless steel alloy. This hard, galling-resistant material was already being used in their production equipment, so it offered the advantage of not requiring a lengthy qualification process. We produced samples of a variety of clamps, some with Nitronic 60 bolts and the softer 316 grade stainless steel for the wing nut or hex nut. After repeated testing of how the experimental clamps performed in actual use and how they reacted to the customer's part washing process and new torquing procedure, the clamps with the Nitronic 60 bolts proved themselves substantially more resistant to galling in use, even when over-torqued.

Today, our customer has replaced thousands of our standard SH Series clamps in two of its North American and one European facilities with SH Series clamps with our new anti-galling option and is benefiting from simpler, more cost-effective maintenance as a result. These new clamps are now the facility's standard design and they must be used in any new processing equipment they purchase. They're also being specified for use in new facilities.

Are you confident you know how to maintain clean and safe process clamp connections?
Download your free copy of L.J. Star's "Sanitary Fittings Best Practices" white paper to review the steps for installing a clamp connection correctly.

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