

# Robroy Stainless® Hygienic Fittings Enable Freshpet® to Ensure Reliable Sealing Protection Against Water Penetration

## THE CHALLENGE:

Freshpet, established in 2006, is a company that has revolutionized the way all pets are fed by preparing nutritious, fresh foods for animals. Freshpet currently serves more than 1 million “pet parents” by making and delivering healthy refrigerated pet food.

During 2022, Freshpet faced multiple challenges in ensuring that its manufacturing process was both hygienically safe and operationally reliable.

Specifically: supply chain issues stemming from the COVID pandemic continued to cause availability problems for products used within Freshpet’s production facilities.

Additionally, certain products were required to meet demanding application requirements while maintaining operational reliability. One example was the utilization of Robroy’s food grade hygienic stainless-steel fittings, especially in those areas requiring ongoing sanitation and wash down. In these environments, it is critical to have and maintain environmental seal to prevent ingress of moisture and potential contaminants.

With products designed to support the installed system to maintain a hygienic (NSF/ANSI/3-A 14159-1) standard and an (IP69k) environmental rating, the system is perfect for the production environment making it easier to clean while protecting the electrical infrastructure during sanitation. Other fittings were considered but did not provide the level of performance or the 3rd party listings to improve reliability of the installed system.



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**– Schon Linville,  
Walker Engineering**

## THE SOLUTION: ROBROY STAINLESS HYGIENIC FITTINGS

To solve their challenges, Freshpet turned to Walker Engineering, established in 1981, and now one of the largest, most qualified electrical construction companies in Texas. Walker Engineering, in turn, relied on Robroy Stainless, a business unit of Robroy Industries, located in Gilmer, Texas.

According to Schon Linville, Electrical Contractor at Walker Engineering: "For Freshpet, we specified Robroy Stainless Hygienic Fittings because we needed to install a product that provided proven protection from reliable sealing in environments with daily wash-downs. We also wanted a fitting (with captive hardware) that kept cover screws in place, so they didn't get lost during operations, changeovers, or maintenance."



Mr. Linville also notes that the design of Robroy Stainless Hygienic Fittings offers benefits

that other fittings do not. "The risk with some fittings is that you can over-tighten the screws and weaken the seal. Robroy Stainless Hygienic Fittings screws stop at the proper torque and provide an optimum seal against water penetration."

Cordero Benitez, Electrical Engineer at Freshpet, concurs with the positive assessment of Robroy Stainless Hygienic Fittings and notes: "We were familiar with Robroy because we have also used their conduit products and know them to be reliable."

The reliability of Robroy Stainless extends to issues of availability. In the words of Schon Linville: "The Freshpet project was a struggle



because our suppliers had been going through supply chain issues during the pandemic. However, Robroy worked with us to overcome any issues related to supply chain. We felt supported by the Robroy Stainless team in trouble-shooting availability problems. The installation itself went smoothly. The best aspect of doing business with Robroy is the quality of their products. We are happy with the end-result."

When asked if they would recommend Robroy Stainless to others, both Mr. Linville and Mr. Benitez voiced a resounding:

**"Yes!"**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Freshpet**

<https://freshpet.com>

**Walker Engineering**

<https://www.walkertx.com>

**Robroy Stainless**

<https://robroystainless.com>