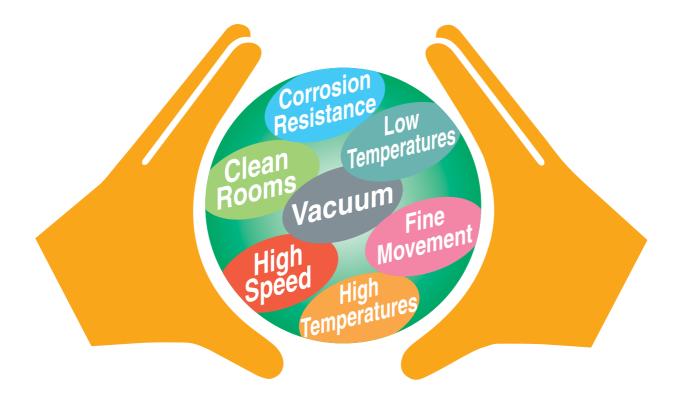
Special Environmental Specifications of

The linear motion systems used in special environments such as semiconductor production systems, liquid crystal production systems, health care equipment and food processing machinery are the product of roughly 30 years of technology and a vast amount of experience.

This brochure provides an introduction to the special environmental specifications products created by taking full advantages of THK 's proprietary Caged Ball Technology, materials technology, lubrication technology and surface treatment technology in order to effectively respond to the increasingly diversified needs of today.





In clean environments such as the environments found in clean rooms, it is necessary to reduce the generation of dust by linear motion systems as well as enhance rust preventive performance since rust preventive films cannot be used. In addition, depending on the degree of cleanliness of the clean room, it is also necessary to use a dust collector.

Generation of Dust from Linear Motion Systems

Measures against dust generation caused by splattering of grease:	Grease resulting in low generation of dust is used and is suitable for clean environments.
Measures against dust generation caused by production of metal wear fragments:	LM Guide with Ball Cage The use of the LM Guide with Ball Cage reduces the level of metal wear fragments produced by eliminating friction between the balls, thereby making it possible to suppress the generation of dust.
Rust Prevention	
Material countermeasures:	Stainless Steel LM GuideThis LM Guide uses martensite stainless steel that is effective in prohibiting rust.High Corrosion Resistance LM GuideThe LM Rail uses austenite stainless steel resulting in a high degree of rust preventive effects.
Surface treatment countermeasures:	THK AP-C Treatment, AP-CF Treatment and AP-HC Treatment Surface treatment (plating) of linear motion systems results in improved rust prevention capabilities.



In vacuum environments, it is necessary to select products having excellent rust prevention capabilities as countermeasures against dispersion of gases released from resins and splattering of grease since rust preventive oil cannot be used.

Measures against gas released from resins:	Stainless Steel LM Guide Stainless steel is used for the material of the end plates of the LM block (through which plastic balls circulate) to reduce the levels of released gas.
Measures against grease splattering:	Vacuum Grease When general-purpose grease is used in a vacuum environment, the oil component of the grease ends up dispersing resulting in a loss of lubricity. Consequently, vacuum grease is used that uses a fluorine-based oil having a low vapor pressure for the base oil.
Rust preventative countermeasures:	Stainless Steel LM GuideThe stainless steel LM Guide is used in vacuum environments dueto its excellent rust preventative effects.High-Temperature LM GuideThe high-temperature LM Guide is used in cases of being subjectedto high temperatures such as during baking, etc. because of itsexcellent heat resistance and corrosion resistance.

B Corrosion Resistance

Similar to the case of use in clean rooms, corrosion resistance is enhanced by selecting appropriate materials and surface treatment.

Material countermeasures:	Stainless Steel LM Guide This LM Guide uses martensite stainless steel that is effective in prohibiting rust.
	High Corrosion Resistance LM Guide The LM Rail uses austenite stainless steel resulting in a high degree of rust preventative effects.
Surface treatment countermeasures:	THK AP-C Treatment, AP-CF Treatment and AP-HC Treatment Surface treatment (plating) of linear motion systems results in improved rust prevention capabilities.



In high-speed environments, an optimum lubrication method is required that suppresses the generation of heat during high-speed motion and improves the retention capabilities of the grease.

Measures against heat generation:

LM Guide with Ball Cage

Heat generation is reduced as a result of the ball cage eliminating friction between the balls. Moreover, since the retention capabilities of the grease are improved, a long service life and outstanding high-speed performance are achieved.

High-Speed Ball Screw with Ball Cage (DN value = 130,000)

The use of a ball cage realizes the ideal ball circulation structure, enabling high-speed feeding unable to be realized with conventional products.

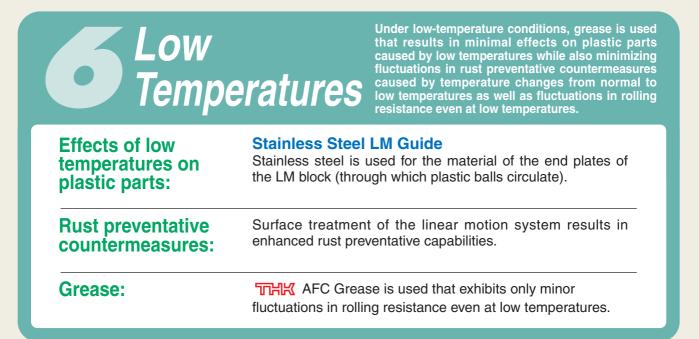
THK AFG Grease

The use of grease capable of suppressing heat generation during high-speed use while also offering excellent lubricity makes it possible to achieve high-speed feeding.

Lubrication countermeasures:

Lubricator QZ

Lubricator QZ makes it possible to significantly extend lubrication maintenance intervals by compensating for lost oil. Since only the minimal amount of lubricating oil is applied to the rolling surface, the surroundings are not soiled resulting in a lubrication system that is environmentally friendly.





Extremely short strokes can cause oil films to be depleted and ineffective lubrication eventually leading to rapid wear. In cases such as this, a grease is selected that has excellent oil film strength and enables the oil film to be formed easily.

Grease:

THK AFC Grease

This urea-based grease offers excellent oil film strength and wear resistance.

LM Guide with Caged Ball Technology

Applicable types SHS SSR SNR/SNS SHW SRS

Clean Rooms

- Measures against dust generation
- Rust preventative countermeasures

Stainless Steel LM Guide

Applicable types	HSR	SR	SSR
	HR	RSR	SHW
	HRW	RSH	SRS

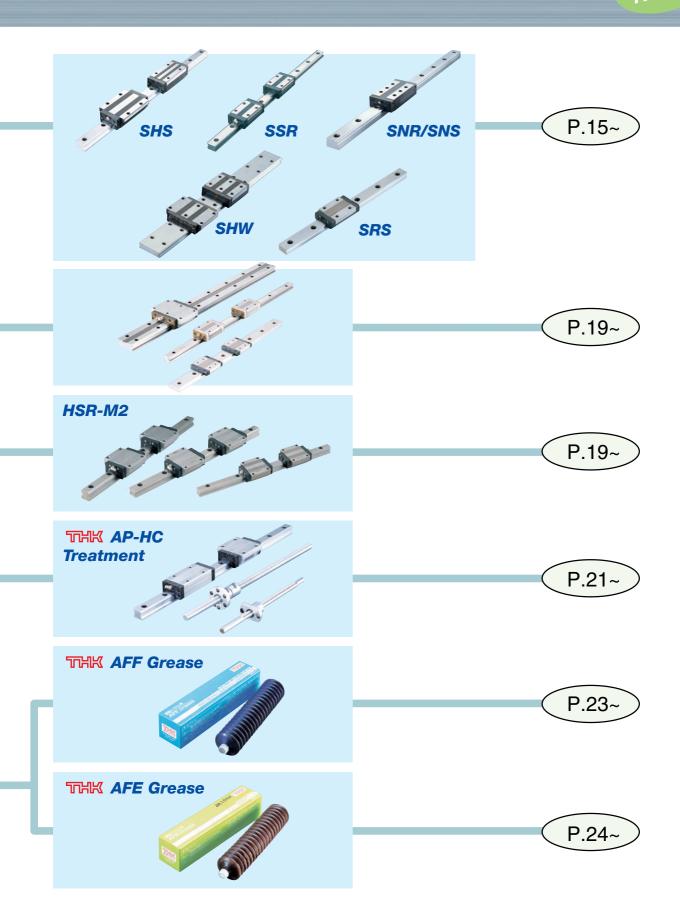
High Corrosion Resistance LM Guide

Applicable type **HSR-M2**

Surface Treatment

Grease

Clean Rooms



Vacuum

- Measures against released gases
- Measures against grease splattering
- Rust preventative countermeasures

High-Temperature LM Guide



RSR-M1

High Corrosion Resistance LM Guide

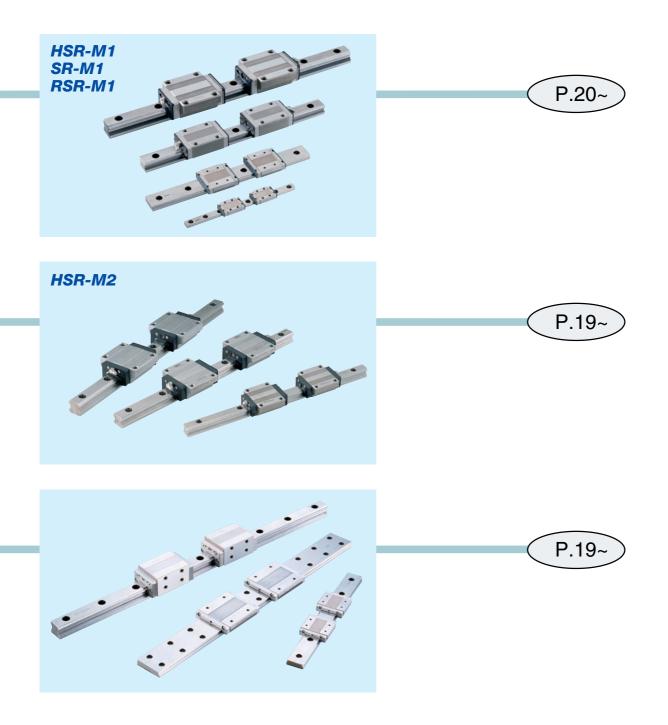
Applicable type **HSR-M2**

Stainless Steel LM Guide

Applicable types HSR SR SSR HR RSR SHW HRW RSH SRS

Vacuum Grease

Vacuum



Stainless Steel LM Guide

Applicable typesHSRSRSSRHRRSRSHWHRWRSHSRS

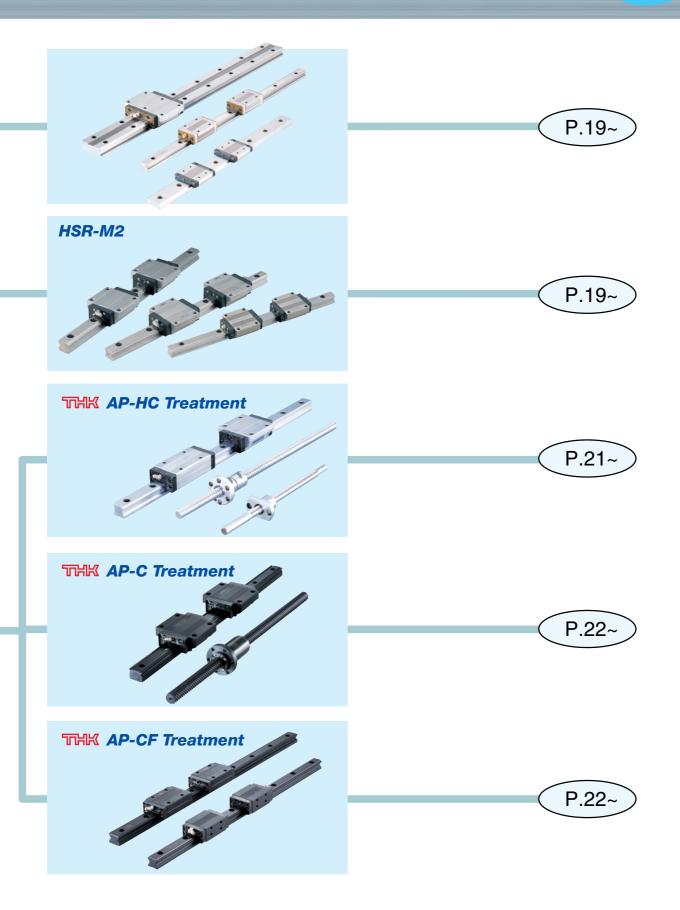
Corrosion Resistance

Material countermeasures
Surface treatment countermeasures High Corrosion Resistance LM Guide

Applicable type HSR-M2

Surface Treatment



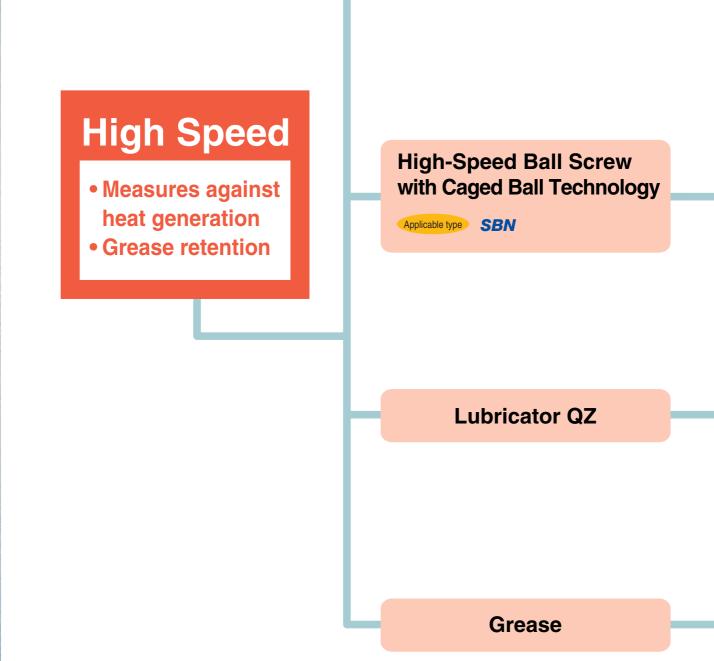




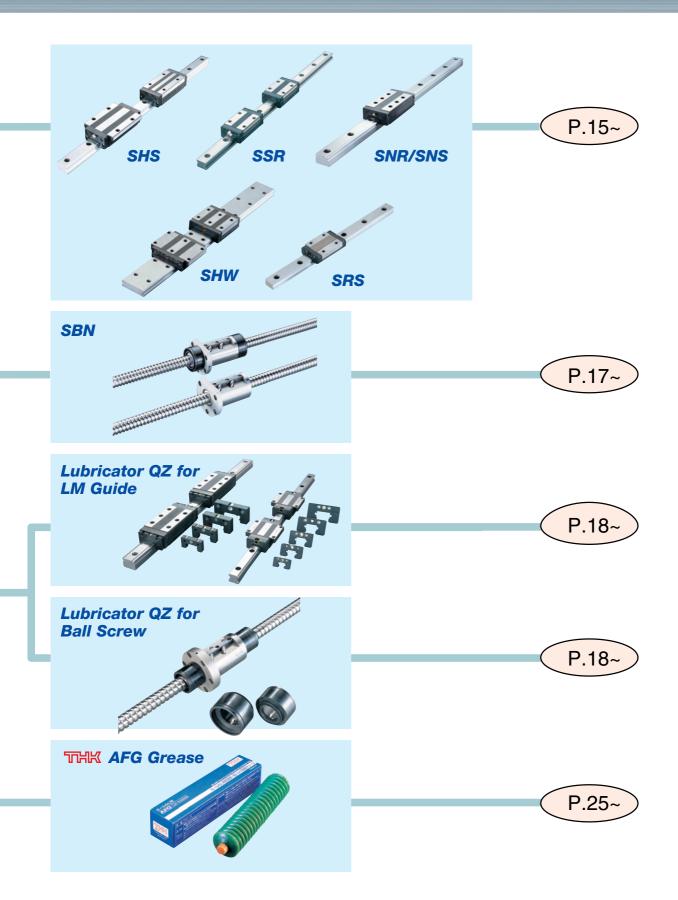
SSR

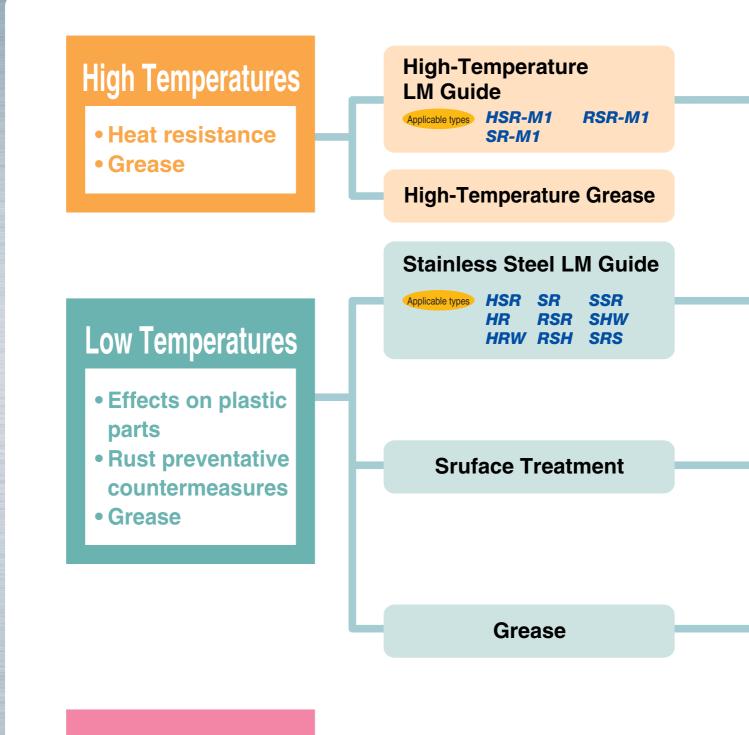
Applicable types

SHS **SNR/SNS** SHW SRS









Fine Movement

Grease retention

Grease



LM Guide with Caged Ball Technology

The LM Guide with Ball Cage is able to demonstrate outstanding low dust generation performance due to the low level of production of metal wear fragments as a result of the ball cage eliminating friction between the balls.

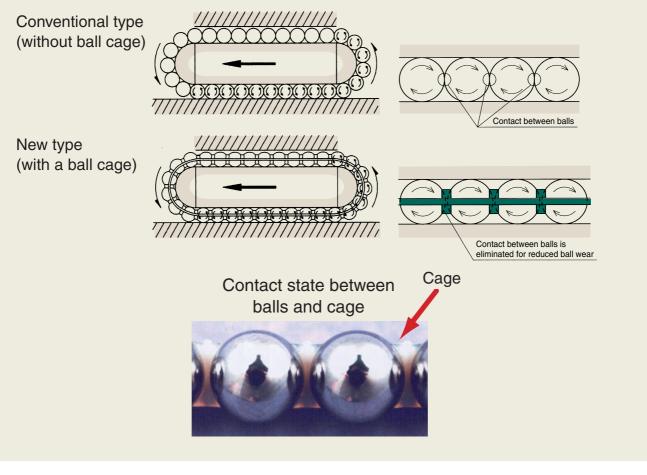
Clean

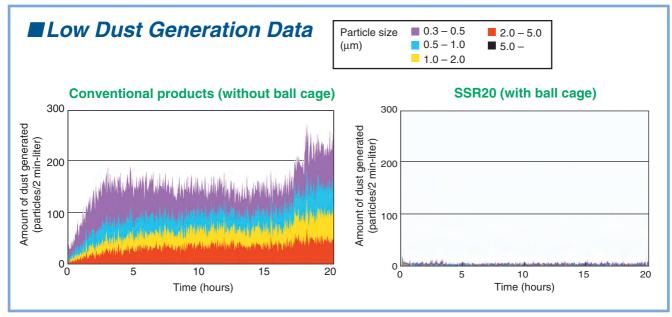
Room

High

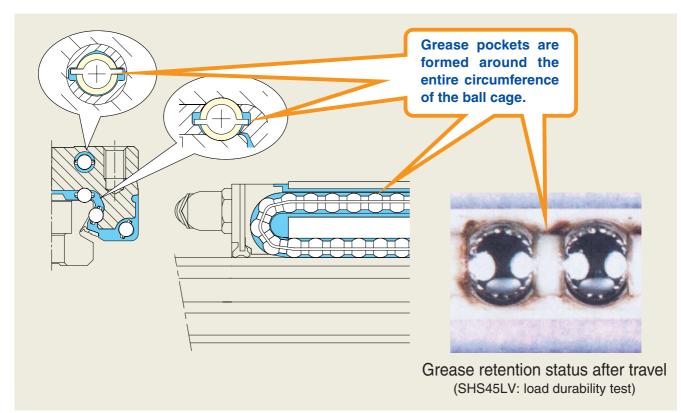
Speed

Friction Between Balls





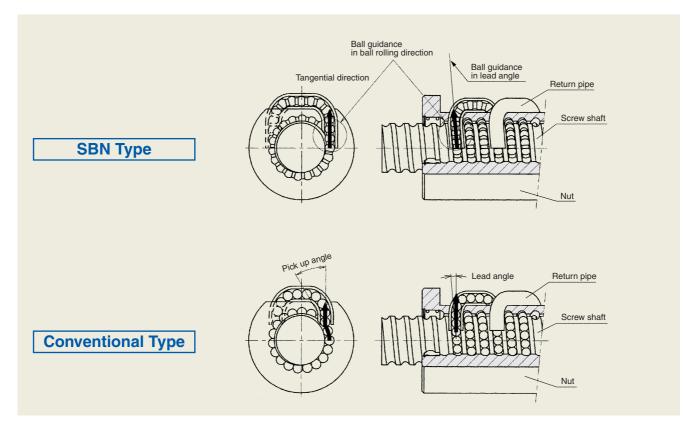
The use of ball cages reduces the generation of heat caused by friction between the balls, thereby improving grease retention capabilities and resulting in outstanding high-speed performance.



High-Speed Durability Test Results Sample : SHS65LVSS Speed : 200 m/min 8618km Calculated service life : 2500 mm Stroke Lubrication : Initial sealing of grease only Distance traveled Acting load : 34.5 kN 23000km Acceleration: 1.5 G 5000 10000 15000 20000 25000 0 Distance traveled (km) Grease remains on the balls and there are no abnormalities observed in the balls or grease. **Detailed illustration of ball cage**

High-Speed Ball Screw with Caged Ball Technology

Since the return pipe of the SBN type does not have a lip so that the balls are picked up in the tangential direction, a flexible ball track is maintained resulting in the ideal form of circulation. In addition, since the design of the return pipe and ball cage enables these parts to have adequate strength, **they can be used at a DN value of 130,000**.



The use of ball cages in the SBN type results in smooth ball circulation and is the ideal form of ball circulation for accommodating high speeds, resulting in outstanding high-speed performance and load durability.

■High-Speed Durability Test

Conditions

Sample	SNB3210-7
Speed	3900 (min-1) (DN value: 130,000)
Stroke	400 mm
Lubricant	AFG grease
Amount applied	12 cm3 (applied every 1000 km)
Load	1.73 kN
Acceleration	1 G

Results

No abnormalities after 3000 km of travel (still running)

Load Durability Test

High

Speed

Conditions

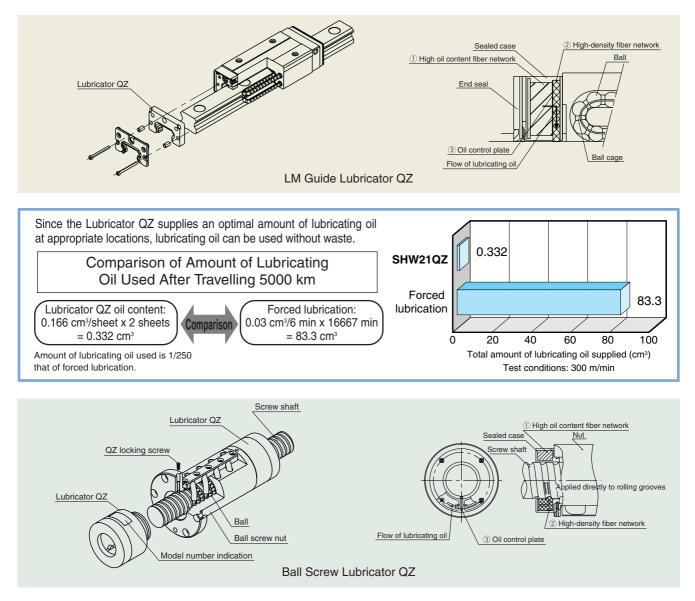
Sample	SBN3210-7
Speed	1500 (min-1)
Stroke	300 mm
Lubricant	AFG grease
Amount applied	12 cm3 (applied every 1000 km)
Load	17.3 kN
Acceleration	0.5 G

Results

Traveled 2.5 times the estimated service life

Lubricator QZ

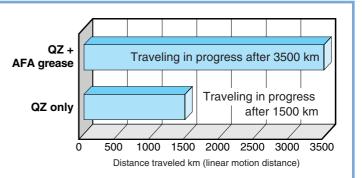
The LM Guide and Ball Screw lose a small amount of grease during the course of travel. The Lubricator QZ is a revolutionary new lubrication system that supplies an appropriate amount of lubricating oil at the appropriate locations, thereby enabling it to compensate for any oil lost over a long period of time. Installation of the Lubricator QZ on the LM Guide with Ball Cage or High-Speed Ball Screw with Ball Cage, demonstrating excellent grease retention capabilities, results in even further enhanced lubrication performance.



Significant Extension of Maintenance Intervals

Since lubricating oil is continued to be supplied for a long time, maintenance intervals can be extended considerably.

Ball screw	BIF2505-5
Rotational speed	3000 min ⁻¹
Stroke	500 mm
Load	0.46 kN



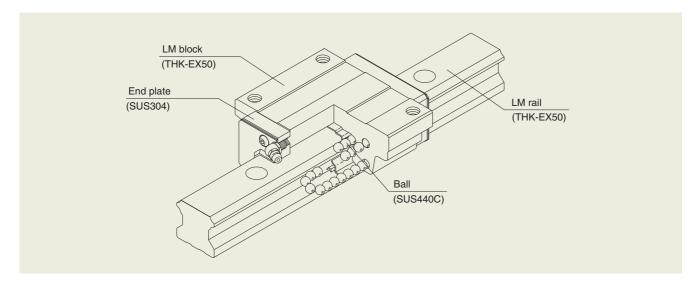
Stainless Steel LM Guide 🧉

Stainless Steel LM Guide delivers outstanding corrosion resistance as a result of using martensite stainless steel. In addition, heat treatment to a level of HRC58 or higher results in a long service life, enabling it to withstand high loads.

Clean

Rooms

Although plastic end plates are used in ordinary environments, when used in a vacuum environment, SUS304 (austenite stainless steel) is used for the end plates to reduce the level of released gases. SUS304 materials are characterized by low oxidation and low levels of released gases.



High Corrosion Resistance LM Guide Clean Vacuum

Austenite stainless steel SUS304, offering excellent corrosion resistance, is used for the LM rail, wile SUS431, offering the highest level of corrosion resistance among martensite stainless steel materials, is used for the LM block and balls. The result is a significant improvement in corrosion resistance over conventional stainless steel (SUS440C).

Retaining plate



Corrosion

Resistance

LOW

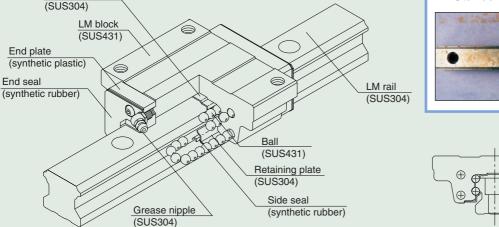
Temperatures

Corrosion

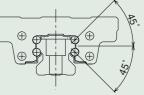
Resistance

Vacuum

Standard Stainless Steel Guide





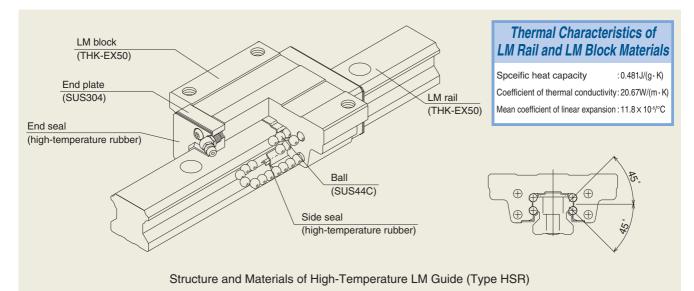


Structure of the Type HSR-M2A High Corrosion Resistance LM Guide

High-Temperature LM Guide Vacuum

The LM block and LM rail are made of THK -EX50 martensite stainless steel additionally treated for dimensional stability to minimize the effects of heat on dimensional changes.

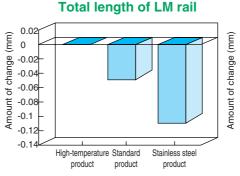
SUS304 austenite stainless steel is used for the end plates for enhanced heat resistance.



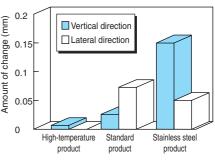
Dimensional Stability Data

Dimension stabilization treatment makes it possible to reduce dimensional changes following heating and cooling to extremely low levels.

- · Total length and curvature data indicate the amount of change when from normal temperature to 150°C for 100 hours followed by cooling to normal temperature.
- HSR25 + 580L high-temperature, standard and stainless steel products were used for the samples.



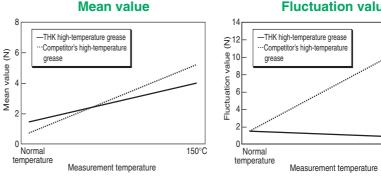
Curvature of LM rail



Grease-Induced Rolling Resistance Data

High-temperature grease is used that minimizes changes and fluctuations (catching) in rolling resistance caused by the grease even when the temperature changes from normal temperature to high temperature.

HSR25M1R1C1 is used as the sample for the above data.



Fluctuation value

150°C

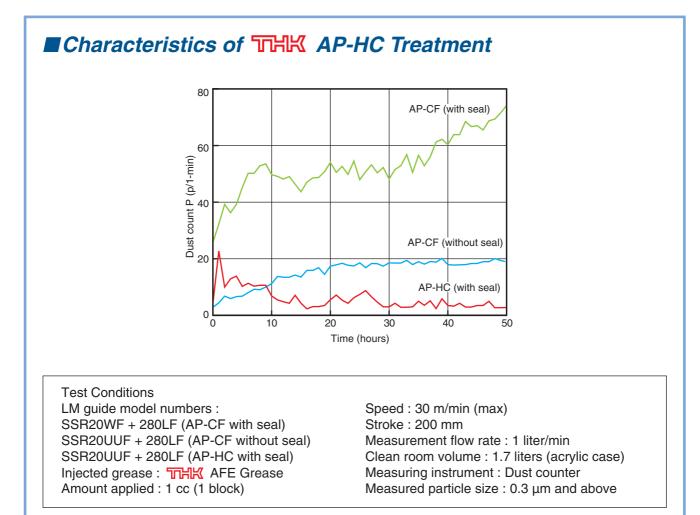
Surface Treatment



THK AP-HC Treatment

THK AP-HC treatment is equivalent to hard chrome plating, and allows for corrosion resistance nearly equivalent to that of martensite stainless steel.

In addition, since surface treatment is performed that results in the formation of a film having a hardness of 700 HV or more, dust generation is reduced while offering outstanding wear resistance.



THK AP-HC treatment results in high surface hardness and offers excellent wear resistance. The large amount of wear occurring in the initial portion of the graph is considered to be attributed to initial wear of the end seals.

Note: THK AP-HC treatment (equivalent to hard chrome plating) THK AP-CF treatment (equivalent to black chrome plating + fluororesin coating)

■ THK AP-C Treatment

THK AP-C treatment consists of black film treatment for the purpose of improving corrosion resistance. It is used in applications requiring rust prevention since it is priced lower than stainless steel LM guides.

■ THK AP-CF Treatment

THK AP-CF treatment consists of compound surface treatment in which a special fluororesin is coated into a black film. Since this treatment results in complete coverage of metal surfaces, it offers a high degree of rust prevention and is suitable in cases requiring a high level of corrosion resistance. Moreover, since the fluororesin constitutes a chemically stable film, it also offers outstanding contamination resistance.

Surface	Rust preve	ntion	Wear	Surface		1.	1		
Surface treatment	Rust prever capabiliti	es	resistance	Surface hardness	Sealing				
AP-HC	0	-+	0	0	0	Metallic gloss			
AP-C	0					Black gloss	-		
AP-CF	O		0	\bigtriangleup	0	Black gloss]		
						© (Superior))		
Sprayee Cycle :	d soluti Sprayi	on ng f	for 6 hou ditions :	CI solutio	ed by dry praying:	ving for 6 h 35°C 60°C	iours		
	F	ïme	Test mate			Martensite ainless steel	THK AP-HC	THK AP-C	까지 AP-CF
			fore testinç						
		Af	iter 6 hours						
		Aft	er 24 hours	5					
		Aft	er 96 hours	6					



기거시 AFF Grease

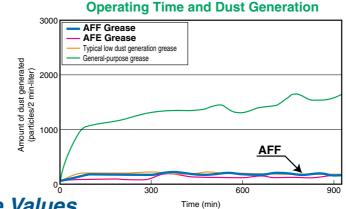
AFF Grease is a high-grade synthetic oil that uses a lithium-based thickener and special additives to realize the perfect balance of stable rolling resistance, low dust generation and flaking resistance not possible with conventional vacuum grease and low dust generation grease.

The use of THK AFF Grease results in improved uniform velocity characteristics of the precision positioning units used in semiconductor and liquid crystal production systems as well as improved response during micro-step feeding. Moreover, due to its excellent flaking resistance to minute vibrations (fine movement wear performance), the intervals between lubrication times can be extended resulting in a reduction in maintenance costs.

Typical Properties of AFF Grease

Test item		Typical property values	Testing method	
Working temperature range	-40 - 120	resting method		
· · · · ·	. ,			
Mixing consistency (25°C, 6	50 VV)	315	JIS K2220 5.3	
Dropping point : °C		216	JIS K2220 5.4	
Copper plate corrosion (100	0°C, 24h)	Passing	JIS K2220 5.5	
Evaporation : mass% (99°C	C, 22h)	0.43	JIS K2220 5.6	
Oil separation : mass% (10	0°C, 24h)	0.57	JIS K2220 5.7	
Oxidation stability : kPa (99	°C, 100h)	39	JIS K2220 5.8	
Impurities : quantity/cm ² 25 µ	m or larger	0		
75 μ	m or larger	0	JIS K2220 5.9	
125 μ	0			
Mixture stability (100,000 W	/)	329	JIS K2220 5.11	
Low-temperature torque :	Starting	0.22		
N-m (–20°C)	N-m (–20°C) Running		JIS K2220 5.14	
Apparent viscosity : Pa-s (-1	0°C, 10S ⁻¹)	3400	JIS K2220 5.15	
Timken load resistance perform	88.2	JIS K2220 5.16		
Four-ball test (fused load) :	3089	ASTM D2596		
Anti-fletching performance : mg		3.8	Complies with	
		ASTM D4170		
Bearing rust prevention : (52°C, 48h)		#1	ASTM D1743	

Low Dust Generation Characteristics



Test Conditions

Item	Description
Model used	SR20W + 280LP
Amount of grease injected	1 cm ³ /1 LM block (initial injection only)
Air supply volume	500 cm ³ /min
Measuring instrument	Particle counter
Measured particle size	$0.3\mu m$ and above
Speed	30 m/min
Stroke	200 mm

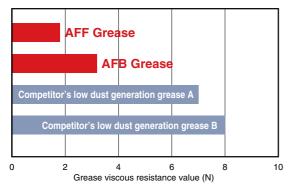
Stable Rolling Resistance Values

Test Conditions

Item	Description
Model used	HSR25A1C1 + 580LP
Amount of grease injected	3 cm ³ /1 LM block (initial injection only)
Speed	10 mm/s
	(222.2)

(23°C)

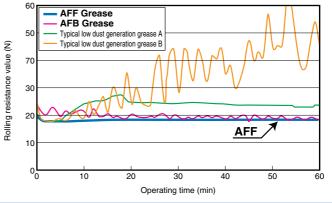
Grease Viscous Resistance Values



Test Conditions

Item	Description
Model used	HSR35RC0 + 440LP
Amount of grease injected	4 cm ³ /1 LM block (initial injection only)
Speed	1 mm/s
Stroke	3 mm

Low-Speed Rolling Resistance Values





THK AFE Grease

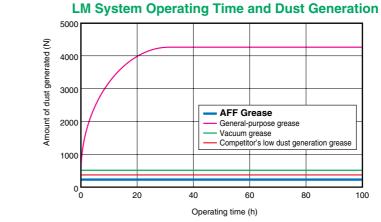
THK AFE Grease uses for its base oil a high-grade synthetic oil along with a ureabased thickener for outstanding low dust generation characteristics.

Since THK AFE Grease is able to accommodate a wide temperature range from low temperatures to high temperatures, and generates lower levels of dust than vacuum grease and typical low dust generation grease conventionally used for low dust generation, it is optimal for the LM guide, ball screws and various other units of semiconductor and liquid display production systems. In addition, it also contributes to reduced maintenance costs by being able to significantly extend the service life of LM systems.

Typical Properties of AFE Grease

Test item and conditions	AFE Grease
Mixing consistency (25°C, 60 W)	280
Dropping point : °C	260<
Oil separation : (150°C, 24h) %	1.8
Oxidation stability : (99°C, 100h) MPa	0.01
Bearing rust resistance : (52°C, 48h)	#1
Base oil kinematic viscosity : cm3/S (cSt) 100°C	12.8 (12.8)
Appearance	Light brown consistency
Working temperature range	−40°C - +200°C

Low Dust Generation Characteristics



Test Conditions

Item	Description
Model used	Type KR4610
Ball screw rotating speed	1000min ⁻¹
Stroke	210mm
Amount of grease injected	Screw, guide: 2 cc each
Measurement flow rate	1 liter/min
Measuring instrument	Dust counter
Particle size	0.5 μm and above

Long Service Life Characteristics

Surface Status of Balls After Traveling

Magnification: 200X

		Nayriincation. 2007
Distance traveled Name	290km	440km
<mark>다니저</mark> AFE Grease	Hardly any color change or damage	Hardly any color change or damage
Typical low dust generation grease		

Test Conditions

Item	Conditions
Model used	HSR25A
Speed	30m/min
Loaded	4.9kN
Amount of grease injected	1 cc/groove (initial injection only)



THK AFG Grease

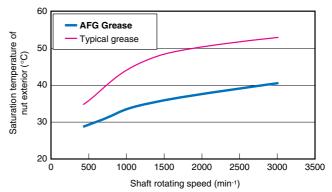
₩ AFG Grease uses for its base oil a high-grade synthetic oil along with a ureabased thickener for outstanding low dust generation characteristics. It also reduces heat generation during high-speed use while offering excellent oxidation stability.

Typical Properties of AFG Grease

Test item	Test item		Testing method
Mixing consistency (25°C, 60 times)		285	JIS K2220 5.3
Dropping point : °C		261	JIS K2220 5.4
Copper plate corrosion (Method E	3, 100°C, 24h)	Passing	JIS K2220 5.5
Evaporation : mass% (99°C, 22h)		0.20	JIS K2220 5.6
Oil separation : mass% (100°C, 24h)		0.50	JIS K2220 5.7
Oxidation stability : Mpa (99°C, 100h)		0.029	JIS K2220 5.8
Mixture stability (100,000 times)		329	JIS K2220 5.11
Rinsing resistance : mass% (38°C, 1 h)		0.6	JIS K2220 5.12
Low-temperature torque : Starting		0.439	JIS K2220 5.14
N-m (–54°C)	Running	0.049	JIS K2220 5.14
Rust prevention test : (52°C, 48h)		1,1,1	ASTM D1743

Low Heat Generation Characteristics

Test Conditions	
Item	Description
Shaft diameter/lead	32/10mm
Speed	67 - 500mm/s
Shaft rotating speed	400 - 3000min ⁻¹
Stroke	400mm
Amount of grease injected	12cm ³
Temperature measurementlocation	Nut exterior



Ball Screw High-Speed Durability Test

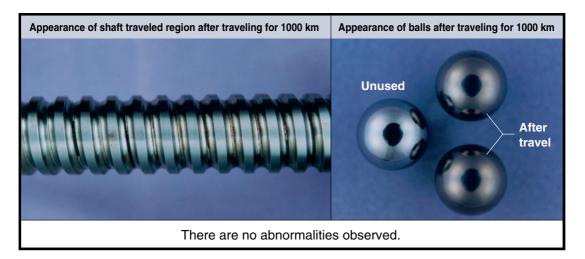
Test Conditions

Item	Description
Shaft diameter/lead	32/10mm
Max. rotating speed	3900 min ⁻¹ (DN value: 130,000)
Stroke	400 mm
Acceleration	9.8 m/s ²

Combining with a ball screw with ball cage enabled use at ultra-high speeds at a DN value of 130,000.

[Lubrication Conditions]

Lubricant : THK AFG Grease Injection volume : 12 cm³ (initial injection only)





기거시 AFC Grease

THK AFC Grease uses a high-grade synthetic oil for its base oil along with a ureabased thickener and special additives to realize extremely outstanding flaking and corrosion resistance.

Since AFC Grease also offers excellent oxidation stability, the intervals between lubrication times can be extended resulting in a reduction in maintenance costs as compared with typical metallic soap-based grease.

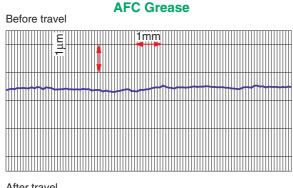
Typical Properties of AFC Grease

Test iten	า	Typical values
Mixing consistency (25°C, 60 W)		288
Dropping point : °C		269
Copper plate corrosion (Method B, 100°C, 24h)		Passing
Evaporation : (Method B, 177°C, 22h)		7.9
Oil separation : (177°C, 30h)		2.0
Oxidation stability : (99°C, 100h) MPa		0.031
Impurities : quantity/cm ² 25-75 µm		370
75 μm or larger		0
Mixture stability (100,000 times)		3.41
Rinsing resistance : (38°	C, 1 h) %	0.6
Low-temperature torque :	Starting	0.439
N-m (–54°C)	Running	0.049
Bearing rust prevention :	(52°C, 48h)	1,1,1
Vibration test : (200 hr)		Passing
Working temperature range (°C)		–52°C - +177°C

Flaking and Corrosion Resistance Test Data

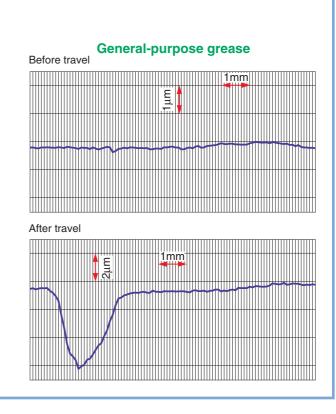
Test Conditions

Item	Description
Stroke	3 mm
Strokes/min	200 min ⁻¹
Total strokes	2.88 x 10 ⁵ (24 hours)
Bearing pressure	1118MPa
Amount of grease injected	12 g/unit (supplied every 8 hours)



After travel

	1mm	
2µm		



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