

Drilling for Profit with Split Roller Bearings

COOPER[®]



The only elevator to storage and load out facilities, this 60' height Bucket Elevator, feeding from mill to storage silos and truck load out facility is critical to operation of plant. Plant production is stopped if bucket elevator is inoperable. Plant capacity is 4,500 tons per month. The material conveyed is Barite, a fine abrasive powder used in oilwell drilling operations for pressure control and drill bit lubrication.

Due to poor sealing, the extremely dusty environment was causing recurring failures of previous bearing. Limited work space at 60' elevation required removal of shaft mounted gear reducer in order to replace fixed bearing. A crane was required in order to remove the gearbox. The plant was shutdown approximately 12 hours while gearbox removed and bearing replaced, resulting in lost revenue due to outage and lost revenue to trucking companies awaiting loadout.

The existing bearing was a Dodge 023186 - P2B-K307R. (Type K x 3 7/16" fixed and expansion) which was not always in stock.

Replacement of the fixed bearing with Cooper 01BCP307GR with the superior Aluminum Triple Labyrinth (ATL) seal eliminated dust contamination problems and extended the life of bearings. The Cooper hallmark split to the shaft feature provides sealing that always remains concentric to the shaft which keeps out foreign matter and retains the lubrication.

Previous to Cooper, the bearings were replaced yearly and the Cooper has given 7 years service without replacement. No crane or special lifting equipment is required and down time is reduced from 12 hours to 3 hours. The split to the shaft roller feature enables installation and inspection access in areas that would otherwise demand a complete plant stripdown.

Inspection and maintenance is carried out in the shortest possible time giving more uptime and less maintenance and reducing workplace risk.

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