

# **TECHNICAL BULLETIN ON MILITEC GREASE FOR LUBRICATING CONVEYOR BEARINGS**

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A waste recycling plant in New Jersey operates 30 conveyors manufactured by Hustler Conveyor Co. The conveyors vary in size. The rollers over which the conveyor belts run use Boston bearings. Grease is shot into a fitting in the bearing and the grease goes from the bearing onto the shaft. One maintenance worker has the job of keeping the bearings greased and this has meant applying grease to each bearing once every day. The average number of bearing sets per conveyor is about eight. Greasing the 240 sets of bearings is a full day's work for this maintenance worker.

A cartridge of Militec grease was obtained at an industrial trade show and tested on some of the bearings. The most important were those outdoors and those in the pits as both are relatively difficult to access, especially in winter for those outdoors. The objective was to lengthen the interval for greasing beyond the normal twenty-four hours. The Maintenance Manager reported that with the Militec grease, the interval could be (and has been) extended to an entire week. After more than two months of operation, the bearings and shafts have shown no deterioration despite the infrequent greasing.

The Maintenance Manager has purchased additional grease cartridges to be able to grease all of the bearing sets. However, he added that since he has a person already assigned to grease the bearings, and since the more accessible bearings are not a problem for the worker, he will have those bearings treated daily. He realizes that this is more than adequate but is comfortable with the thought that Militec grease is providing extra insurance that failures will not occur. He said that the price of the grease was insignificant compared to the savings obtained by not having to treat poorly accessible bearings on a daily basis.