

In This Issue

The Hendrik Group, Inc. designs and fabricates a barge unloading system to handle coal without spilling coal and coal dust into the Chesapeake Bay!

The U.S. Department of Energy and their take on the coal industry and it's future. The Hendrik Group can offer help with it's A.S.B.C. technology.

**HoverGlide Q & A...
The Hendrik Group, Inc. continues to answer the most asked questions about air supported belt technology.**

HoverGlide

Air Supported Belt Conveyors

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The

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Save The Crabs!

A new barge unloading facility has been erected by Kinder Morgan in Newport News, VA. In order to accommodate the large incoming barges of coal, the unloading dock was placed more than 500 feet from the shoreline. During the transfer of coal from barge to conveyor, there was the potential for coal dust to spill into the water and possibly affect the marine life, especially those Maryland crabs!

The Hendrik Group was requested to supply a HoverGlide air supported belt conveyor to safely transport the coal from the dock to land without spilling coal or coal dust into the water. This unique application consists of using two bucket cranes that scoop the coal from the barges and then dump the coal into two large, moveable receiving hoppers along the length of the dock.

The conveyor includes a 500 foot long horizontal loading zone, over which the two moveable loading hoppers travel. This loading zone is completely open (no covers) and has 500 feet of continuous skirtboards. Twelve inch high side walls prevent the cross winds from blowing coal and coal dust into the water. The coal then flows under a magnetic separator before the conveyor changes into a vertical curve as it progresses towards the discharge on land. The enclosed inclined section is supported over the water by truss work which is interspersed at eighty foot intervals. Both the carrying side and the return in this section are totally enclosed.

The HoverGlide conveyor is over one thousand feet long and handles up to 4800 TPH on a 60 inch belt.



HoverGlide

Q&A

The Hendrik Group fronts many questions about the air supported belt conveyor on a daily basis. We hope it is because people are as excited about this technology as we are. We will try to address your issues in this section, but of course, feel free to call us for additional information.

Q: What prevents the holes in the plenum from plugging?

A: When the conveyor is in operation, air is forced between the plenum bed plate and belt, escaping along the belt edges. This creates a positive seal against dust and material from entering between the plenum bed plate and belt. When the conveyor is not operating, the belt lies in the trough, sealing the holes.

Q: Will the conveyor operate without air?

A: If the conveyor is short enough, probably. It would act as a slider bed conveyor. However, the fan is interlocked with the conveyor motor. When the conveyor is started, the fan is activated first. Through an adjustable pressure switch, the conveyor motor is started once the plenum pressure is reached. The unfortunate side effect of running the belt without the air is premature wear in the plenums which, after a prolonged period of time, will ultimately prevent the conveyor from working properly.

More in the next issue.

From The U.S. Department of Energy!

“Coal is one of the true measures of the energy strength of the United States. One quarter of the world’s coal reserves are found within the United States, and the energy content of the nation’s coal resources exceeds that of all the world’s known recoverable oil. Coal is also the workhorse of the nation’s electric power industry, supplying more than half the electricity consumed by Americans.

Coal-fired electric generating plants are the cornerstone of America's central power system. To preserve this economically-vital energy foundation, innovative, low-cost environmental compliance technologies and efficiency-boosting innovations are being developed by the Energy Department's Fossil Energy research program.

To tap the full potential of the nation’s enormous coal supplies, the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Fossil Energy is working with the private sector to develop innovative technologies for an emission-free coal plant of the future.

This research and development program is pioneering more effective pollution controls for existing coal-fired power plants and an array of new technologies that would eliminate air and water

pollutants from the next generation of power plants.”

The previous is a direct quote from the U.S. Department of Energy (www.energy.gov). This sounds like positive news from the powers that be. The Hendrik Group has the technology to help in this current situation and lower the amount of pollutants from coal handling systems. Give us a call to find out more.



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Thought for the day: The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who are not. - Thomas Jefferson