

Timken Multiplies Uptime at South African Mine

The successes continue to mount for Timken® spherical roller bearing solid-block housed units. These durable cast-steel housings, high-performance spherical roller bearings with multiple sealing options improve performance in the toughest applications around the globe.

At New Clydesdale Colliery in Mpumalanga, South Africa, an EXXARO location, a conveyor experienced repeated premature bearing damage on the tail pulleys. The mine operators challenged their bearing distributor to find a solution. The distributor asked Timken for a recommendation to meet the challenge.

“Our Timken distributor approached us looking for a solution at New Clydesdale,” said JP Egerer, Timken technical sales representative in South Africa. “After reviewing the situation with the distributor and the maintenance team at New Clydesdale, it was clear that bearing contamination and housing strength were the primary issues. We were confident that our spherical roller bearing solid-block units would remedy the situation.”



CUSTOMER

Exxaro, New Clydesdale Colliery

MARKET

Mining

PRODUCT

Spherical Roller Bearing
Solid-Block Housed Units

THE TIMKEN ADVANTAGE

The Timken team provided a solution to enhance performance for the colliery through:

- “Drop in” units that fit the conveyors existing design envelope;
- Pre-assembled, solid-block design that helps keep contaminants out;
- Sealing options that keep debris out for longer bearing life than competing housed unit brands; and
- Steel housings that withstand severe shock loads and vibration.

The solution delivered improved mill uptime and lower maintenance costs.



After installing two Timken spherical roller bearing solid-block housed units at the tail pulley positions, New Clydesdale decided to install more units at several locations in its conveyor system.

“We were getting eight weeks maximum bearing life with our previous solution. From fractured housings to seal failure and higher-than-normal maintenance cycles, the issues ran the gamut,” said Frans Botha, mechanical foreman at New Clydesdale. “Timken presented the spherical roller bearing solid-block housed unit as a potential solution and we gave it a try. We saw benefits right from the start. It took us approximately 30 minutes to install each unit, compared to an hour and a half normally required to reinstall the previous split-block units. Nearly a year later, the original units were still running and our maintenance cycles have been reduced significantly.”

RELIABILITY. EFFICIENCY. TIMKEN.

Timken keeps the world turning, with innovative ways to make customers' products run smoother, faster and more efficiently. Our highly engineered bearings, alloy steels and related products and services turn up everywhere. To learn more about how Timken's expertise in friction management and power transmission can maximize your performance, contact your Timken sales representative or visit us online at www.timken.com.

TIMKEN

The Timken team applies their know-how to improve the reliability and performance of machinery in diverse markets worldwide. The company designs, makes and markets high-performance steel as well as mechanical components, including bearings, gears, chain and related mechanical power transmission products and services.

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