

Customer Testimonial



Wirelife™ Monolec® Penetrating Lubricant

TFC Recycling, Inc. – Chester, Virginia

Recycling Conveyor System

- Protects chains from the damaging build-up of debris
- Keeps pin and bushing area better lubricated, resulting in significant reduction in lubricant use and application time
- Causes chains to run smoother and motors to run cooler and last longer
- Eliminates downtime due to cleanup of chains or replacement of chains and motors



Customer Profile

TFC Recycling, Inc. is part of a regional company that serves the greater Richmond area, particularly in the counties of Henrico and Chesterfield, through contract with Central Virginia Waste Management Authority. TFC recycles newspaper, cardboard, plastics, aluminum and other grades of paper. It currently processes approximately 1,000 tons a week. It has been in business since 2001 and has been an LE customer since 2005.

Application

TFC Recycling has a recycling conveyor system composed of several chain setups of different pitch sizes. This system primarily transfers recyclables for sorting. A series of conveyors, all chain-driven, move the bulk recycled material to specified areas for further processing.

Challenge

While using a commercial grade lubricant, the chains were quickly loading up with dirt and paper dust. As the chains became heavy with these materials, they would bind and often break. Motors were running hot and failing prematurely. The mechanics had to stop the conveyor several times a day to clean, adjust and reset chain-on-sprocket setups. Because the oil was not migrating into the pin and bushing area, starvation and rusting were occurring.

"I consider that the change to LE products exclusively in our facility has been a significant contributor to the overall success and continuing improvement in productivity, equipment uptime and profitability," said Andy Gupton, TFC Recycling's plant manager.

Solution

The local LE lubrication consultant recommended LE's Wirelife Monolec Penetrating Lubricant (2001), which provides superior load-carrying capacity and corrosion resistance for cables and chains. It contains a petroleum solvent to enhance penetration. After the solvent evaporates, a film of heavy-bodied oil remains to protect and lubricate each cable strand and chain pin.

Results

Maintenance personnel, including the plant manager, said the change was remarkable. The first thing they noticed with the Wirelife Monolec Penetrating Lubricant was that the chains no longer attracted build-up. They also noticed that the pin and bushing area remained lubricated. Instead of having to oil the chains every day or two,



they now only have to spray them once a month. In the two years since they have been using the new lubricant, there have been no broken chains, no need for replacement chains and none of the associated downtime costs. As a result of smoother running chains, the number of motor replacements has dropped as well.

Other LE Products Used

- Heavy Duty Solvent Degreaser/Brake Cleaner (802)
- Duolec® Vari-Purpose Gear Lubricant (1608)
- Monolex® Penetrating Oil & Lubricant (2059)
- BTU+ Total Treat Diesel Fuel Improver (2410)
- Almagard® Vari-Purpose Lubricant (3752)

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Thank you to TFC Recycling's Andy Gupton, plant manager, and Sabid Dreco, maintenance lead, and to LE lubrication consultant James Glover (pictured), for providing the information used in this report.

