

Conveyor chain granted European patent

Ramsey was recently granted a European patent for Lifeguard wear-protected conveying chains (EP 2368816 B1). According to Ramsey's Technical Department, Lifeguard is also protected by numerous US patents, with a growing number of customers around the world benefitting from the design's cost saving features.

Lifeguard conveying chain was developed in direct response to customer demand for a wear-protected chain with a smooth, snag-free, lateral profile. It features interlocking side links that provide the most complete chain protection available. These specialised links not only guard against lateral chain and pin head wear, they also improve product transfer by greatly reducing the size of gaps between adjacent side plates.

PREVENTING UNWANTED WEAR

Typical conveying chains contain pins that are exposed on the sides of a chain and can rub against lateral guides or transfer plates, or snag on protruding edges along the conveyor's path. This makes them susceptible to the wearing or chipping away of the pin head. Once the pin head is destroyed, the chain will start to come apart. If that occurs, the conveyor must be stopped and the chain must be repaired, or replaced.

Lifeguard joins Ramsey's portfolio of wear-protected conveying chains that guard against lateral chain damage by recessing pin heads in the side plates of the chain. Each link contains special, tapered, counter-bores that fully contain the ends of the chain pins. With the pin heads fully enclosed, they are protected from the chipping and abrasive wear that can shorten the life of a conveyor chain. Thus, Lifeguard can run in direct contact with lateral guides, without damaging pin wear.



Available from Ramsey, Lifeguard is offered in 1/2in pitch and 1in extended pitch.

SMOOTH GAP-FREE SURFACE

Another feature of typical conveying chains that can produce problems is the presence of gaps between the adjacent side plates of the chain.

These gaps can cause tipping and mishandling as articles are moved on to the chain, especially with small bottles and high speeds. Such problems are much less likely with Lifeguard's closely nested side links. The links form an uninterrupted top surface that promotes smooth transfer.

KNOCKOUT TOOL

The Ramsey knockout tool, known as the RKO tool, is the perfect companion for Lifeguard chain. One of Ramsey's latest innovations, the RKO tool is a state-of-the-art piece of equipment, specially designed to help connect and disconnect Ramsey wear-protected chains, including Lifeguard. The tool is patented both in the USA and Europe. ■



In addition to being wear-resistant, Ramsey's Lifeguard chain has special interlocking links that create a smooth, gap-free surface and prevent snagging.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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