

METALS (USA)

HOT STRIP MILL

Castrol Molub-Alloy® 777 ES grease

ANNUAL SAVINGS: \$244,400



THE SITUATION

A major steel manufacturer had high costs associated with their blooming mill rolls and bearings. The conventional grease in use was easily washed out of the bearings due to high volumes of process water. Rolls and bearings were required to be changed every quarter, requiring significant time and cost.

Castrol was challenged to reduce water wash of the grease and ultimately impact maintenance's bottom line.

BEFORE

- Conventional, low-cost grease that is easily washed out
- Replacement of top & bottom rolls and brgs every 3 months
- Top roll = \$17,000
- Bottom roll = \$17,000
- Top bearings = \$15,700
- Bottom bearings = \$11,400

AFTER

- Molub-Alloy 777 ES high performance grease
- Bloomer has not required a roll or bearing change in 2 years.

THE SOLUTION

- Castrol Application Engineers reviewed the operation in detail.
- They determined that the conventional grease was washing out of the mill bearings causing premature failures.
- Molub-Alloy 777 ES was recommended, knowing the exceptional water resistance and high load carrying ability would increase bearing and roll life.

Molub-Alloy 777 grease greatly extends bearing and roll life in a bloom mill.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Molub-Alloy 777 grease was tested for 3 months and showed no signs of bearing wear during this trial. Its use was expanded to all locations based on this success. The Molub-Alloy 777 has increased bearing life by 8 times in 2 years without a failure.

Benefits include lower production costs, less downtime, better utilization of maintenance time, and cost savings on bearing replacements and roll machine work.

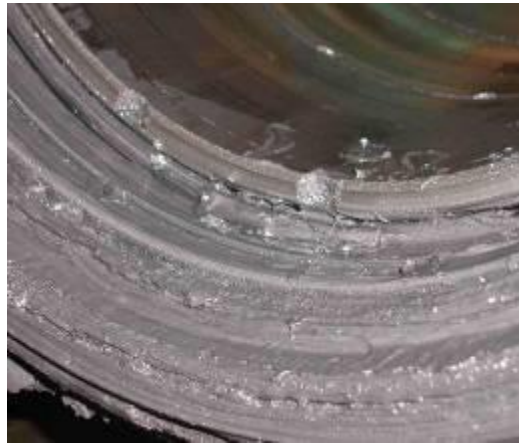


Typical Conventional Grease
Oxidized and water logged

CONCLUSION

Molub-Alloy 777 grease combined with Castrol engineering support provided exceptional value to the customer through reduced downtime, longer bearing & roll life, and lower maintenance costs.

The result was no bearing failures equalling \$244,400 in annual savings.



Typical Molub-Alloy Grease
Integrity maintained



OTHER POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS

Castrol Molub-Alloy 777 ES is an excellent grease in applications requiring water resistance and heavy load carrying ability.