

METALS (USA)

SEAMLESS PIPE

Castrol Molub-Alloy® 860/220-1 ES grease

ANNUAL SAVINGS: \$60,138



THE SITUATION

A leading producer of steel seamless pipe was experiencing problems with inconsistent lubricant delivery to their seven finish mill stands. The problem was further complicated by water contamination of the bearing grease, affecting product finish, loss of bearings, and additional tear down costs during normal production.

Castrol was challenged to help redesign the delivery system and provide a "Better" lubricant for the application.

BEFORE CASTROL

- Conventional EP 1 with high viscosity base oil
- Samples showing 13.4 - 18.4% water contamination
- Iron wear trend was increasing
- The mill stands were served by two separate grease systems.

AFTER CASTROL

- Castrol Molub-Alloy 860/220-1 ES
- **Samples showed less than 0.05% water after conversion!**
- Iron wear trend levelled off
- Castrol assisted in redesigning the lube system into one modern unit

THE SOLUTION

- Castrol engineers redesigned the grease system to provide more reliable delivery to the mill stands. They provided the schematics, parts list, and assistance in installing a new Farval dual-line system.
- Based on lab testing and past experience, Castrol chose Molub-Alloy 860/220-1 ES grease known to provide exceptional water wash resistance and long bearing life.
- Additional value is being realized through improved product finish and less unplanned downtime.

Molub-Alloy 860/220-1 ES grease improved the water wash resistance in the mill stand bearings, greatly reducing the mill maintenance cost and downtime.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Castrol recommended simplifying the lube system into one unit and provided the necessary expertise to make it happen. This new system was more modern, more dependable, and had increased visibility to the reliability of its operation.

This new unit was combined with Molub-Alloy 860/220-1 ES, a grease capable of handling the heavy loads and strong water wash environment.

CONCLUSION

The customer was unsure how to improve their maintenance lubrication costs so they turned to their lubrication experts, Castrol, who were able to provide not only an improved lubricant but expertise to redesign the lube delivery system.

The result is \$60,138 in annual cost savings!



OTHER POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS

Castrol Molub-Alloy 860 series high performance greases are used widely throughout steel mill applications in the Melt Shop, Caster, Rolling Mill, Pipe Mills, and Structural Tube Mills.