

# METALS (USA)

## CONTINUOUS CASTER

### Castrol Molub-Alloy® 860/460-2 ES

## ANNUAL SAVINGS: \$314,880



### THE SITUATION

A major steel mini-mill was experiencing excessive bearing failures in their continuous caster operations.

This resulted in lost production and high equipment replacement costs.

The customer was looking to gain improvements to their operations which could provide greater production and fewer maintenance costs.

### BEFORE

- Segment bearings were replaced every 30,000 tons which averaged to 20 changes per year and annual cost of \$384,000 for parts.
- Each segment replacement resulted in two hours of lost production which calculated to 5,200 tons of production lost per year.

### AFTER

- Segments replaced every 100,000 tons resulting in a \$314,880 annual savings in bearing costs
- 3,640 tons of increased production was achieved.

### THE SOLUTION

- Castrol provided a solution to address the concerns of the customer.
- Grease system improvements were made through a joint effort between Castrol and the customer.
- Castrol supplied bulk grease tanks to eliminate the use of drums & totes and associated labor and waste costs.
- Grease consumption was decreased by 60% per month which resulted in a positive impact to water treatment and waste disposal costs.
- Spray water nozzle blockages were reduced in the cooling system.
- Segment changes were reduced from 20 per year to 6 per year.

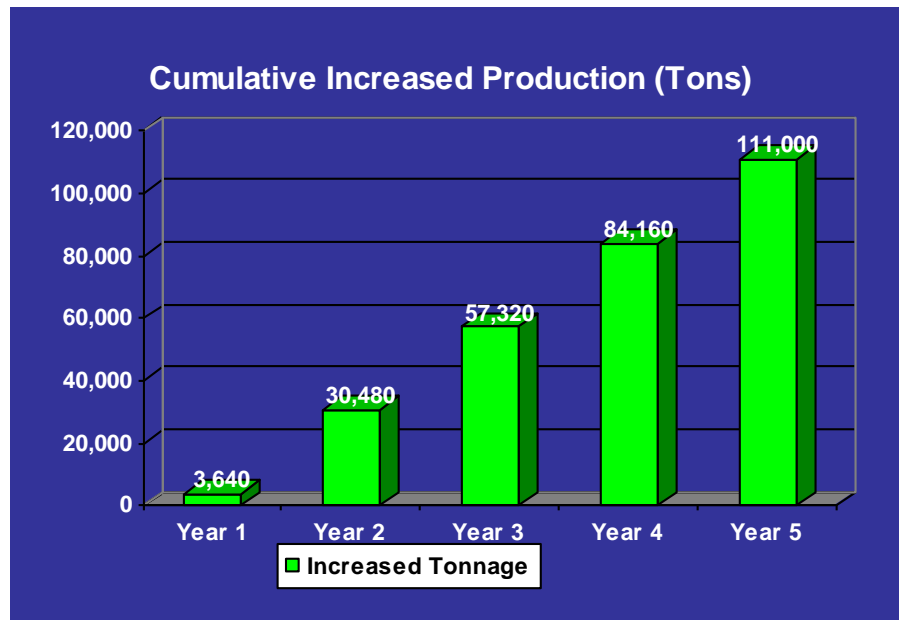
- The use of a high-performance grease to meet the extreme application demands of a Continuous Caster
- Experience and knowledge in automatic lubrication systems
- Providing positive impacts to the environment

## RECOMMENDATIONS

After proving value in the caster and rolling mill areas, Castrol has since participated in the planning and supervising of all mill outage lubrication projects. Perhaps the most significant of these projects has been the addition of two new bulk grease tanks that were designed and furnished by Castrol. These tanks have reduced the plant's reliance on totes and drums, thereby eliminating the associated labor costs and product waste.

## CONCLUSION

Castrol's performance-based products and services have significantly outperformed conventional products and services. With the increased use of Castrol products over the years, ***the customer was able to realize a significant return on investment.***



## OTHER POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS

Castrol is able to provide the metals industry with a full range of services to complement our lubricants which range from high-performance to fit-for-purpose. Some of the main areas where Castrol can provide benefits are the melt shop, continuous casters, hot and cold rolling and tube mill operations.

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