

# METALS (USA)

## HOT STRIP MILL

Castrol Molub-Alloy® 860/460-2 ES grease

**ANNUAL SAVINGS: \$33,363**



### THE SITUATION

A major steel producer was experiencing high grease usage and routine bearing failures at the cooling bed. The conventional grease had been in use for many years. The customer was over-lubricating the bearings in an attempt to reduce failures. In addition, the grease tended to harden in the lube lines, causing excess maintenance costs.

Castrol was challenged to provide an improved grease that would reduce overall operating costs.

### BEFORE

- Annual grease consumption of 2,520 lbs
- Bearing failures and grease “coking” in delivery lines
- Grease piles on floor due to over-lubrication
- High maintenance costs

### AFTER

- Annual grease consumption of 730 lbs, a 71% reduction!
- No bearing failures in 2 years
- Elimination of labor and downtime costs
- Housekeeping is greatly improved

### THE SOLUTION

- Castrol identified that the conventional grease in use was not suitable for the heavy duty application.
- Molub-Alloy 860/460-2 was tested in a small section of the cooling bed. This test demonstrated the grease’s ability to prevent bearing failures while using significantly less grease.
- The entire cooling section was converted and no bearing failures have been experienced in the 2 years since.

**Molub-Alloy 860 reduces grease usage by 71% while eliminating bearing failures!**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Castrol Engineering chose the correct grease for the conditions of the mill and utilized their application expertise to apply the correct amount for optimum lubrication. This reduced grease usage and bearing failures significantly. In addition, grease piles were eliminated creating better housekeeping.

## CONCLUSION

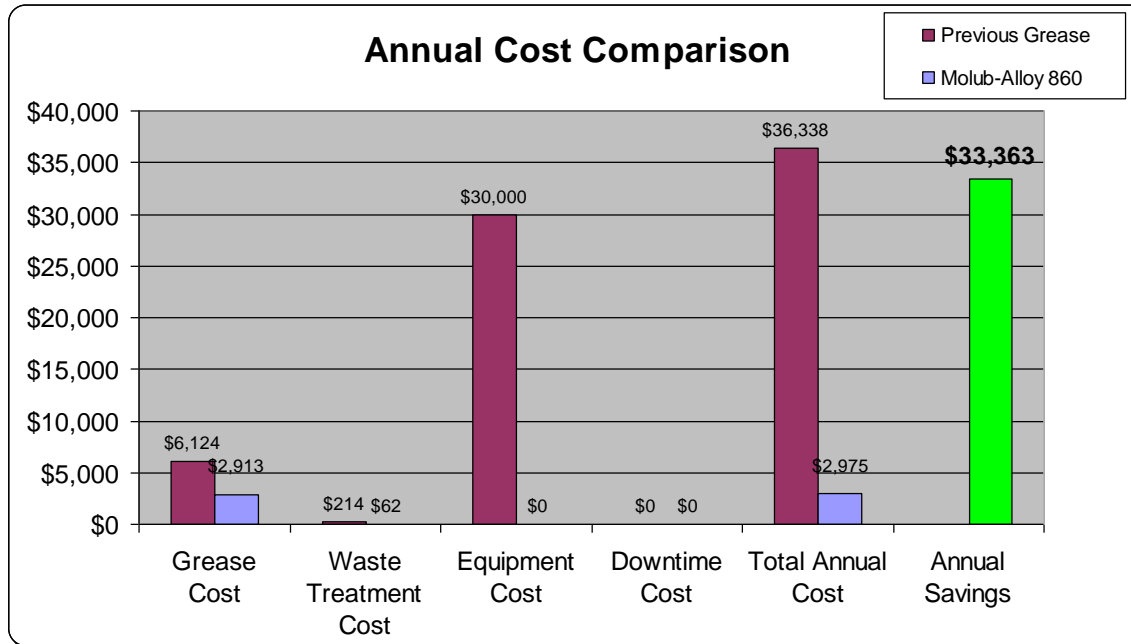
Molub-Alloy 860/460-2 ES coupled with application experience created an overall savings for the customer.

**The result was no bearing failures and \$33,363 in annual savings.**



## OTHER POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS

Castrol Molub-Alloy 860 ES is an excellent grease in applications requiring heavy load carrying ability. It's EP and solid lubrication package can greatly extend equipment life.



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