



4,000tph LPF about to be despatched following successful trial running.

Transmin launches Low Profile Feeder

WA-headquartered engineering firm Transmin says that its Low Profile Feeder (LPF) combines features and advantages of both conventional belt and apron feeders.

Heavy duty feeding applications have traditionally used conventional belt or apron feeders.

However, Transmin says its recently launched Low Profile Feeder (LPF) combines the features and advantages of both types of bulk feeding technology. In addition, the LPF occupies very little vertical space.

The LPF is available in a number of standard belt widths, from 1.8m to 4.0m, while Transmin can cater for non-standard widths with custom designs. The machine's capacity varies according to material characteristics and speeds but, says Transmin, rates of 5,000tph and more are readily achievable.

The LPF can be applied in such applications as stockpile reclaim, bunker extraction, feeding to crushing and screening plant, furnace and kiln feeding, and bulk intake.

"The LPF is ideal for high 'head load' applications – the chains and slats take the loads," said Phil Gilbert, marketing manager, Transmin. "With its low profile the design occupies less head room than alternative feeder types.

"The belt does not take any tension forces itself, which means the shafts and sprockets are smaller in diameter than heavy duty belt feeder pulleys."

According to Transmin, the LPF's other benefits are:

- It is positively driven by toothed sprockets, with no belt slippage or mis-tracking.
- There is no spillage, so separate clean-up spillage conveyors are not required.
- It has width versatility with widths in excess of 3.0m readily achievable.



Picture shows the compactness of the LPF: the vertical distance between belt surface and underside of foot plates is only 1.2m.

- It is resistant to damage. Should the belt be punctured or torn, the tear will not propagate due to the fact it is not under tension and is securely attached to the slats beneath. The belt can also be fitted in easily replaceable short sections.
- The LPF uses common industry components. Spare parts are readily available and familiar to maintenance personnel.
- The LPF is easily cleaned and conventional belt cleaners readily fitted.

"Overall, the LPF is capital-cost competitive," explained Mr Gilbert. "It will prove comparable to conventional feeder options on heavy duty applications."

The LPF is generating significant interest from sectors including iron ore, aluminium, general mining and minerals processing, cement and building products, nickel and copper and zinc refineries, quarrying, brick and building products, timber processing, waste processing and recycling, chemical, and fertiliser.

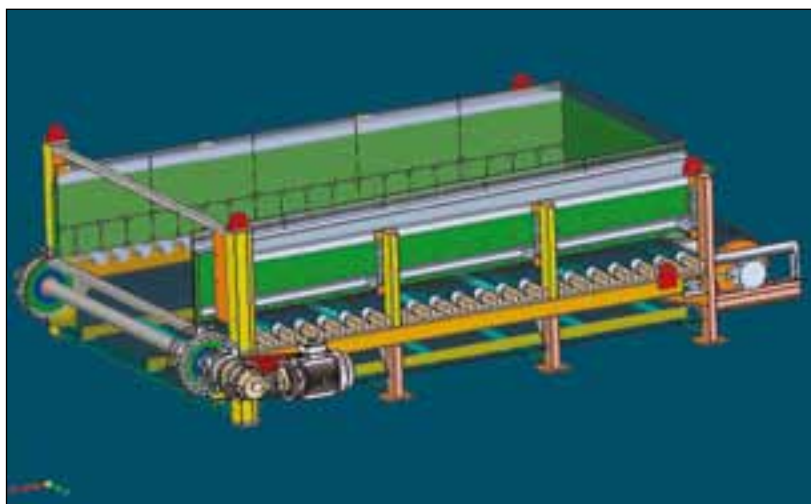
Transmin is a mid-sized engineering and materials handling company with headquarters in Perth and premises in Brisbane. The firm specialises in offering engineering input into custom systems, rather than selling individual products to customers.

Transmin's key markets are in large rock-breaker booms, silo systems, ball mills, lime handling, low level feeders, and large gates for the iron ore sector.

The company has designed screw feeders, belt feeders and chain feeders for over 20 years. It has supplied some very large screw feeders over the years to handle materials such as nickel concentrate, cement, lime, and fly ash and belt feeders to handle products such as clay, ores, concentrates, filter cakes and minerals.

According to Phil Gilbert, the LPF was a natural development of the company's Low Level Feeder (LLF) which is a combined reception, storage and feeding device capable of receiving bulk materials from tipping trucks or front end loaders.

"Being a wide machine, of up to four metres, clients asked if the LLF technology could be adapted to suit applications more traditionally served by apron feeders or conventional belt feeders, such as under dump hoppers, bins and the like," explained Mr Gil-



Conventional track type chains and rollers are employed within the LPF design.

bert. "They could see the benefits of a machine having the combined features of both belt feeders and apron feeders - positively driven by chains and sprockets, and therefore with no slippage or mis-tracking and non-spilling."

Transmin recently supplied an LPF to the iron ore industry, the machine handling ore of over 300 mm at 4,000tphr. The company soon expects to turn several other recent enquiries into orders.

Transmin was founded in 1987 by Ross Nunn and has grown steadily from three to 75 staff over the last 22 years.

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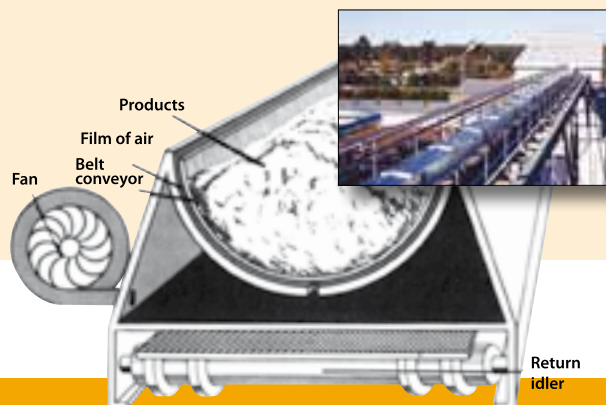
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