SKF Caster Analyst System helps you make informed decisions to optimize production

System monitors roll line load and temperature in real-time, during production

Benefits

- Reduce planned and unplanned downtime
- Increase productivity
- Lower maintenance costs
- Reduce the risk of catastrophic equipment failures
- Optimize maintenance procedures
- Improve slab quality

The extreme environment in which continuous casting equipment operates calls for regular maintenance, and makes maintaining slab output and quality a challenge. Knowing, based on data, when to make process adjustments to raise slab output and quality is crucial. SKF can help you achieve higher slab output and quality with a system unlike anything else in the metals industry today.

SKF Caster Analyst System

The system, consisting of a specialized on-line load and temperature unit for advanced and reliable data collection, enables operators to monitor critical temperature and load data during production.

The system simplifies troubleshooting, enabling increased output and enhanced product quality. Taper settings can be modified, process speeds can be adjusted to optimize production and cooling problems can be accurately identified and addressed.

SKF Caster Analyst System also contributes to optimizing equipment reliability, helping mills avoid unplanned stops and catastrophic failures. The system's advanced data processing and sharing capabilities can even help mills secure and meet future productivity targets.

- Monitors load distribution and duration to identify and help prevent damaged rolls
- Monitors temperature to identify weakness in cooling practices to secure slab quality
- Enables improvements such as increased speed, tundish change time, gap adjustments and more
- Enables remote data processing, analysis and sharing across the mill and the Web
- Adaptable to various machine designs

For more information about SKF products and solutions for the metals industry, contact your SKF representative.

Applying SKF knowledge engineering to improve machine reliability and efficiency in the metals industry

Few environments can match the demands placed on equipment used in the metals industry, from continuous casters and vessels to travelling cranes and ventilation systems. SKF engineers work closely with steel mills to meet application challenges and deliver the benefits they need to stay competitive.

These benefits include increased machine reliability, extended maintenance intervals and reduced costs, increased productivity, reduced energy consumption, and optimized life cycle costing. Below is just one example of how SKF knowledge engineering helped a metals industry customer improve efficiency and profitability.

SKF Caster Analyst System leads to €300 000 savings

The problem

Outokompu, Avesta, a Swedish stainless steel manufacturer, was experiencing unplanned stops due to failed bearings and roll lines in the bow of its continuous caster. The caster was a frequent production bottleneck, so the company needed a system that would help it avoid the unplanned stops and increase slab output.

The solution

Needing accurate data collection to perform a root cause failure analysis, the company turned to SKF. SKF installed its Caster Analyst System and determined the cause of the problem, helping the company reach a decision to rebuild the machine. SKF then provided ongoing support to help Outokompu meet its production targets.

The results

SKF helped Outokompu reach several new production benchmarks. By increasing casting speed as much as 10% for certain steel grades and dimensions, output increased. By changing cooling practices and the gap adjustment, slab quality improved. Maintenance costs dropped while producing certain steel grades, and roll line service life rose from 12 to 15 months.

Summary*

Reduction in unplanned downtime.....up to €220 000 / year

Reduction in spare parts.....up to €80 000 / year

TOTAL SAVINGS.....up to €300 000 / year

*All numbers are rounded off and based on customer estimates. Your particular cost savings may vary.

SKF 360° Solution ROI calculations are from the SKF Documented Solutions Programme. Ask your SKF Authorized Distributor for more details.

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