

SKF bearing remanufacturing services

Reduce maintenance costs and contributes to productivity and profitability

Benefits

- Protect productivity by securing vital spare parts
- Enhance profitability by reducing replacement costs and the need for excess spares inventory
- Help prevent future bearing damage by identifying issues affecting performance

Typical applications

- Bucket wheel excavators
- Conveyor drums
- Gearboxes

In mining operations maintaining productivity and securing profitability are essential. When large size bearings need replacing, long lead times, and the significant replacement costs involved, can play havoc with both measures. Understandably, the temptation for mines is often to increase their spares inventory, but this can be both problematical and expensive. Given this, remanufacturing can be a solution.

Detailed bearing inspection and analysis

SKF has decades of expertise in bearing remanufacturing. All work is performed at dedicated state-of-the-art SKF remanufacturing service centres, by specialists, to rigorous SKF specifications. The work begins with cleaning, degreasing and disassembling the bearings. All components are then inspected. From this inspection a detailed Bearing Analysis Report is issued. Bearings that are not damaged beyond repair can be restored using appropriate procedures that can include polishing, grinding and component replacement.

Secure productivity

By opting for a remanufacturing, mines can reduce their lead times for replacement bearings, lower their maintenance costs and, in many cases, secure productivity by avoiding downtime.



Opportunity for application improvements

Furthermore, using the SKF Bearing Analysis Report, problems that affect bearing performance can often be identified opening up opportunities for optimizing applications and avoiding repeat failures. In addition, because the remanufacturing process requires far less energy than is needed to manufacture new bearings, it is a sound choice for the environmental too.



Mine operator achieves significant savings with SKF remanufactured bearings

The problem

An opencast lignite mine was under pressure to show year-on-year maintenance cost reductions. As a result, maintenance staff had been significantly reduced and non-core maintenance work had been outsourced. Even so, additional savings needed to be made.

The SKF solution

Based on a long-standing working relationship and positive experiences with SKF remanufactured bearings in conveyor drive drums, a project was started for SKF to ana-

lyze the opportunities in other applications as well. The mine made a decision to send all dismantled bearings to the nearest SKF remanufacturing service centre for analysis. There, SKF found that 50% were suitable for remanufacturing and the mine decided to continue the process with SKF.

The results

As a result, they achieved significant savings through reduced replacement and warehousing costs. SKF also optimized the order handling procedures with the operator, resulting in additional savings related to logistics and information technology.



Savings summary

Maintenance cost savings	€530 000
Warehouse cost savings	€75 000
Total savings	€605 000

** All figures are rounded off and based on customer estimates of labour and production costs.*

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PUB 73/S7 18472 EN · May 2019