CUSTOMER SERVICE BULLETIN

Subject: Rod deflection in DuraLite® and Leading Edge® DuraLite belting.

Abstract: Cambridge International released DuraLite belting in 2007 and a Leading Edge version of this belting in 2009. These belts are different from our Cambri-link® belting mainly in two ways. The belt pitch has been increased to 1.33" and the wicket/picket contains more open spacing with a nominal 3" opening in the center mesh of the belt. While the benefit of a lighter weight belt (resulting in more capacity) is evident, the cross-rod of DuraLite belting has an observable "bow" to it unlike our previous Cambri-link belts. This bulletin addresses this more pronounced rod deflection by deeming it as standard operating condition.

Bulletin: In Flatwire turn belting the resistance to bending the main connecting rod is based on the amount of material and the number of bends in the wicket/picket design (density). Since most turn belting carries tension predominantly on the outside edge, the natural tendency of the rod to bow forward (outside edge leads the rest of the belt) is present.

Both DuraLite and Leading Edge DuraLite have a more open design of the wicket/picket and therefore less resistance to rod deflection. While the belt may appear to be over-tensioned, this may be aesthetic only.

Our 4-plus years of operation in the field has shown that this phenomenon is in all cases strictly aesthetic in nature and the belting is considered to be running normal when it is seen in this position.

Cambridge International always strives to ensure total customer satisfaction. We are available 24/7 to answer all questions regarding this subject.

IN GENERAL:

- DuraLite is rated for 400 lbs of tension while Leading Edge DuraLite is rated for 500 lbs of tension. Operating the belt in excess of this tension will lead to an increase in observed cross-rod deflection
- The increased pitch amplifies the deflection observed.
- The wider the belt is the more deflection will be observed.
- The faster the belt travels the more noticeable the deflection becomes.
- Belting not under tension will exhibit normal characteristics with no leading edge.

Cambridge International maintains that under normal conditions, the belt should be flipped to equalize belt stresses after 4,000 to 6,000 operating hours. In heavily loaded applications, the belt should be flipped every 6 months regardless of operating hours.

Note: Not all DuraLite belts, including Leading Edge DuraLite can be flipped; belt edge construction must be equal in order to flip the belt.

Please refer to Cambridge International Engineering for more information regarding this topic or any other regarding proper maintenance and handling of DuraLite spiral cage belting.