

More PRACTICAL IDEAS



Wire-Braided Hose Stops Vibration

WE MANUFACTURE rubber conveyor belts at the Thermoid Co., and curing these belts takes place in long presses. Hydraulic pressure is applied to belts by 12 pistons. Pistons are worked by water under 2200 psi from a long, metal standpipe. Before, each piston was connected to standpipe by rigid metal pipes of 90-deg bend. Vibration caused connecting pipes to break.

We licked this problem by using our own product. Answer was high-pressure, powerflex, hydraulic, wire-braid

hose. Pipes were replaced by 12 short lengths (about 15 inches long) of hydraulic hose taking a 90-deg bend. Hose is built to stand these pressures, yet is flexible enough to absorb vibration caused by hydraulic-pump pulsations as pistons raise the bottom half of press against top.

After four years, hose connections are still going strong. No more lost production and no maintenance since hose was installed.

Bucko Jones Trenton, N. J.

Ice Does Damage

WE LEARNED it's expensive to replace a split 14-in. OS&Y (outside screw and yoke) gate valve. Valve was on exposed line used to load a sludge vessel. With winter coming, we took precaution by pumping back (draining) the line.

The day after an 11-degree night, we filled line for loading and had sludge all over our sewage-disposal plant next morning.

Valve froze and split. Reason was that when a gate valve is closed while under pressure, yoke stays full, sketch, of whatever line carries (except steam). In our case, where line can be re-

lieved of pressure, proper freeze-up safeguard is to leave valve at least half open. In this way yoke empties out. On other exposed valves that cannot be left open (line under pressure) drill and tap for two 1/2-in.-pipe plugs. After valve is closed, remove both the "vent" and drain plugs.

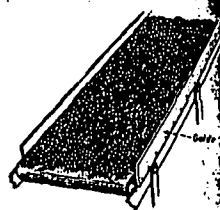
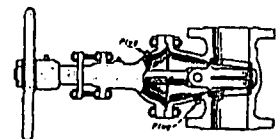
F J ARDALINO Brooklyn, N. Y.

Keeping Valve Stem Clean

WE HAVE a tough problem with flyash and coal dust, as do most pulverized-coal-burning plants. We find that a piece of rubber hose, same length as stem of a rising steam valve, makes a good protector. It also keeps the threads clean.

Rubber is also a safety device if valves are likely to be bumped. For valves in vertical position, cut hose an inch or so longer than stem. Plug end of hose with a wooden plug or whatever is available or handy.

JERRY TRNCAK East Alton, Ill.



Belt Wear Stopped

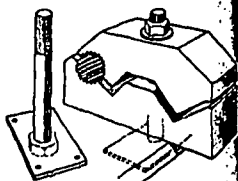
UNDUE BELT WEAR on portable belt conveyors can often be stopped by adding guides along each side of belt. Under proper alignment is closely watched, belts have a tendency to creep over one side, rubbing against trough roller brackets. That wears out belt in short time.

Conveyor belts are very expensive, any improvement to increase life is a big help toward reducing maintenance cost.

To overcome this undue belt wear, we installed guide strips along each side of belt. Guides run full length of the belt.

They overlap about one inch with enough clearance so that belt slides through. Since guides were installed, belt life has doubled.

H T BAILEY Brillien, Va.



Special Clamp Vise

SKETCH shows unusual holding device built to do a special job. It has proved very useful and handy at the bench on platen of a drill press.

Clamp is machined of good steel and jaws hardened and tempered. Plant with clamp-bolt welded to it allows either jaw (round or angle) to swing as needed. Size of this device depends on your own need. We made ours to handle 2-in. angle iron, and 1/2- to 1 1/2-in. round stock.

C H WILLEY Penacook, N. H.
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