State of the Industry: Wood

SUCCESS STORY

SAG-12E in OSB Manufacturing Plant

NEW PRODUCT

HabaCHAIN® Vent Top Case Chain
State of the Industry: Wood

The U.S. housing market is finally showing significant improvement after the most drastic drop in history. Several years after falling off a cliff, starts-wise, the housing market is showing true signs of life, with activity picking up throughout 2012 and momentum carrying into this year. The stability of the US housing market has a direct effect on wood product producers as a large percentage of their products are exported to the US.

Prices for OSB (oriented strand board, also known as Aspenite) almost doubled in 2012 and remain strong in first quarter 2013. The price of dimensional lumber has increased 25% over the past year. MDF (medium-density fiberboard) producers have seen their order bookings remain strong in 2013. The US economy added 40,000 construction jobs in Feb. 2013.

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Newsletter Know-how

Welcome to our Newsletter Know-how contest, designed to test your knowledge of the articles within this edition of the Premier News. The first five people to correctly answer the question below will be entered into a chance to win a Habasit golf umbrella at the end of the quarter. E-mail your answer to Habasit America Marketing, along with your full name and company name. Three winners will be announced in the April 2013 edition of the Premier News. Enter the contest every month to increase your odds of winning. Good luck!

Question:
What are the two different types of Vent Top Chains offered by Habasit?
State of the Wood Industry

A large share of the composite wood industry is changing hands. Sixteen panel mills with an estimated 3.17 billion square ft. (3/4- inch basis) were slated to change hands by the end of 2012. Arauco has acquired 7 Flakeboard North American plants and will operate under the name Flakeboard. Kaycan has purchased 3 Uniboard plants. International Paper purchased 4 Particle Board and 2 Medium Density Fiberboard plants from Temple Inland. These consolidations are expected to bolster prices of finished goods and improve manufacturer’s bottom lines.

All this is good news for the wood sector.

Success Story

Background
A large Canadian Manufacturer of OSB (oriented strand board) was struggling with the OEM specified belts on their press out-feed triple and double un-loader conveyors. After 3 to 4 months of service, the Carbox-Nitrile rough tops would harden due to residual heat in the caul screens. The screen would slip on the hardened belts in start stop situations causing mistiming of the screen transfer which in turn led to down-time. At that point, the belts would have to be changed out in spite of the fact that the belts visually looked like they were in good condition.

Solution
Habasit supplied their SAG-12E heat resistant EPDM rough top. The customer had no slippage issues for the full life of the belt which was well in excess of 1 year. The belt provided them with a constant coefficient. This saved the customer considerable dollars in belt replacement costs and downtime. As a result of this success, the customer changed its entire board and screen handling conveyors using Habasit rough tops SAG-12E, HAG-12E (screen returns under the press) and PMAKLN- Brown (infeed conveyors to the multi-opening press). The customer now stocks 1200 mm wide rolls of SAG-12E, HAG-12E, and PMAKLN- Brown.
New HabaCHAIN® Vent Top Case Chain

Habasit introduces the new HabaCHAIN® 1211TB (Radius) with hold down tabs and 1201AB (Straight) Vent Top Case Chains. These gray acetal chains reduce the risk of pinch points and allow for water drainage during the sanitation process. For convenience, a sprocket change is not required, but is recommended. Applications where vent top case chains can be found include cone lines, empty and full box lines, and empty and full tote lines. These chains can be run with current chains and in current race ways.

Vent Top Design Features:
- Closed vent top design
- Tapered slots for reduced trapping of conveyed product
- Safety version for pinch protection
- Designed for bi-directional travel

The 1211TB and 1201AB Vent Top Case Chains are boxed and sold in 10 foot increments.

We have 6 inch samples that can be sent to you or your customer.
- C1201-224DPAB+00N Sample: 1201 straight perforated flat top 2.24” x 6” (3 links) gray acetal
- C1211-224DPTB+00N Sample: 1211 radius perforated flat top 2.24” x 6” (3 links) gray acetal with hold down tabs

New Log Saw HabaSYNC® Timing Belt

Habasit America can now provide the complete Log Saw HabaSYNC® timing belt used at tissue converting mills that manufacture rolled tissue products (i.e. paper toweling or toilet tissue). These TPU timing belts are 14M pitch and 55 mm wide and can be joined, pin spliced, or provided fingers prepped. The belt length and spacing of mechanically fastened lugs needs to be specified. The log saw belts have pusher arms that are attached to the lugs on the belt which push the large “logs” of rolled tissue into the saw to be cut down. Please contact Middletown Customer Care with inquiries.
HabaSYNC® in the Wood Industry

Background

Applications for HabaSYNC® timing belts used within the wood industry are commonly found in panel and flat sheet conveying, component manufacturing and wood assembly. Some TPU timing belts are used in lift applications, especially in areas of palletizing.

Similar to applications in the glass industry, the majority of applications are found in secondary processing areas. Belts for conveying are typically parallel in path and include various types of frictional needs (covers). While some profiles may be found, they are not common in this segment. Tracking guides, however, can be found in the wood industry. Some are traditionally placed on the belt’s tooth side while others are welded to the conveying side.

Primary targets are OEMS, however End User applications are plentiful.

What benefits do timing belts offer the wood industry?

Wide or long lightweight products allow for the use of multiple strands of belt where the product can be predictably moved in a synchronized fashion. Add the benefit of added high friction covers on a strong wear resistant base belt and you have an easy to maintain conveyor. Easy release silicone covers are used in applications where gluing of laminates or furniture assembly takes place.

The use of multiple belts means that even if one belt is not working the others can still move the product.

Areas of application focus:
- Plywood manufacturing lines
- Laminate panels manufacturing lines
- Light board and sandwich panels
- Particle board, panel coating and upgrading
- Door manufacturing lines
- Flooring manufacturing lines
- Furniture manufacturing lines
Habasit America Helps Power a Boat

HabasitLINK® plastic modular belting has been used in lots of different applications; from bakeries to automotive manufacturing; from candy bars to distribution centers. But as propellers for a boat? Now that puts a new spin on solutions in motion!

Academia Avance, located in Highland Park in Los Angeles, CA, decided to do just that. Since 2010, Avance Seniors have participated in the SolarCup competition. 40+ schools from Southern California compete in May on Lake Skinner near Temecula. They build a boat and then race it in two different race formats; endurance (two 90 minute heats) and sprint (two 200m heats).

For the 2013 competition, they designed a propeller type boat. They took their past experiences and engineering ideas together to design a new concept for this year. After much research, they came across HabasitLINK® plastic modular belts. They believed that the flights used on plastic modular belting could work in their favor in this paddle system.

Academia Avance reached out to Habasit America to see what we could do to supply them with belting and flights for this project. We were happy to contribute to this innovated solution! After many emails and phone conversations between our Applications Engineer Jeff Butler and the Executive Director Ricardo Mireles, it was decided that the best solution for this project was the M5032 Flush Grid belt with molded sprockets and the M5010 Flat Top 2” flight and Flat Top 4” bucket flight.

Academia Avance call themselves a "Life Preparatory Charter Public School". The school started in 2005 with 100 students in the 6th and 7th grade and 100% of the 2012 graduating class were accepted into a 4 year college institution. Academia Avance promises a rigorous preparation course for college and real-world experiences in a professional setting. The Faculty Team believes that everyone has the right to a college education and they are dedicated to helping each student get there. For more information about the school, click here.

They are coming along quite nice with their boat and will be putting it in the water soon to test it.
Habasit America Employees Work Together to Fulfill Customer’s Order

Habasit America staff from throughout the company worked together on a Saturday morning to help fulfill a very large, last minute customer order. Their work was extremely productive and very much appreciated. Together, they were able to assemble a large portion of the plastic modular belting order in just a few hours. With all of their help, Habasit was able to meet the customer’s demands and deadline.

The New TF-102T Live Roller Belt

Habasit America’s TF-102T live roller belt for the material handling industry is an economically priced belt made in Middletown, CT and stocked by your local Habasit distributor for fast service and repairs. Made with Aramide cords embedded in the TPU layer, this belt can navigate small pulleys and help decrease rising replacement cost. If needed, the TF-102T can be spliced into your existing belt and spliced using your existing tools.

Features and Benefits

• Simple & fast joining method: adhesive free joint with uniform belt characteristics
• High flexibility with Aramide cords embedded in TPU layer: navigates small pulley diameters, low energy consumption
• Higher modulus of elasticity: consistent throughput and higher safety factor for temporary overloads
• High dimensional stability and low sensitivity to humidity: no re-tensioning, suitable for long live roller conveyors
Key Account Manager Profiles

Paul Parducci

Paul has been Habasit’s KAM for the Southern California and Southern Nevada area since June, 2011. He has been in sales for over 30 years (he began selling memberships at his local gym at the age of 15). Of those +30 years, more than 20 have been in industrial/technical sales.

In his role as a Habasit KAM, Paul enjoys solving problems in the vast array of businesses he serves. He “absolutely loves” his job as a KAM and looks forward to growing and improving the way in which he manages, grows and supports his territory. Paul states, “Habasit is a company that really cares about its customers. Time and again I’ve seen us bend over backwards to solve a problem. I am proud to be a part of the Habasit team.”

One of Paul’s most memorable moments at Habasit was while making sales calls with Harry Koster in the Midwest. Paul and Harry were “driving past about a billion stalks of corn on Midwest highways with no traffic (something unseen in Southern California since the 1920’s).”

When not selling Habasit belting, Paul enjoys spending time with his family. His wife, Kelly, is a therapist who works primarily with children with special needs and his son, Patrick, is a junior in high school with interests in both economics and cinema. Paul also enjoys working out, reading and hiking the mountain trails near his home.

Joe Green

Joe has spent the past 28 years in sales. Of those 28 years, 24 have been with Habasit. Joe’s region covers Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, the Florida Panhandle and Eastern Tennessee.

Over the years, Joe’s favorite part of being a KAM at Habasit has been meeting people and seeing how things are made. He has also enjoyed finding ways to help customers with their belting needs and offering a better solution to how they do things. Joe plans to exceed forecast for the rest of his career with Habasit and have fun while doing it.

Since Joe has been at the company for quite a while, he has seen many changes. This includes the growth from a small building in Chamblee, GA to the large 371,000 square foot facility Habasit now calls it’s North American headquarters in Suwanee, GA. Joe’s favorite memory (of many) while at Habasit was hearing Area Business Manager, Joe Albertson sing “Hot Summer Nights” (he can’t get that one out of his head).

In his spare time, Joe likes doing things with his family - his wife Alice, son Brandon (28) and daughter Taylor (19). He also enjoys hunting, fishing, running, playing basketball and watching baseball and football.

Experience the New and Improved Customer Connect

Customer Connect now gives you the ability to view all aspects of our fabric and chain inventory along with quotes, orders, tracking information, RMAs and invoices; all from the comfort of your own office! You can also quote plastic modular belts and chain without even picking up the phone. Log onto Customer Connect through a real-time Web-based screen directly from our website and you’re off and running!

For more information on Customer Connect, click here.
Literature

Literature now available on [www.habasitamerica.com](http://www.habasitamerica.com). [Click here](http://www.habasitamerica.com) to order literature.

2010 - Tobacco Industry Brochure
2020 - Printing and Paper Brochure
2044US - Material Handling Brochure
2130 - Hamid Joining Kit Flyer
2161US - Meat Processing Brochure
4051 - Habasit Profiles Brochure
4107 - HabaSYNC® Timing Belts Brochure (revised)
4228 - HyCLEAN Brochure
4238 - Cleandrive Brochure
4236US - Rossi Gearmotors Product Overview
4300 - Energy Savings Flyer
4319 - HabaSYNC® Accessories Brochure
4331 - HabaSYNC® Flex Endless Timing Belts
6018 - HabaSYNC® Engineering Guide
6031 - HabasitLINK® Engineering Guide
6039 - Fabric Belts Engineering Guide
6040 - Fabric Belts Installation & Maintenance Guide
6044 - HabaSYNC® Fabrication Solutions
4329 - HabaCHAIN® Brochure

Habasit America in Social Media

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