WAITES

Waites Conveyance™ Helps Heavy Industrial Steel Producer Avoid $130K in Conveyor Downtime



AT-A-GLANCE

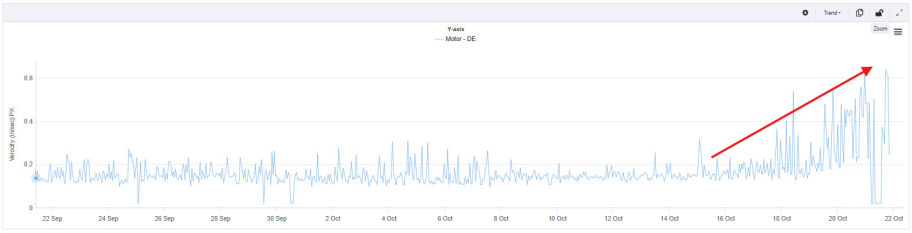
EQUIPMENT TYPE:
CONVEYOR MOTOR – DRIVE END

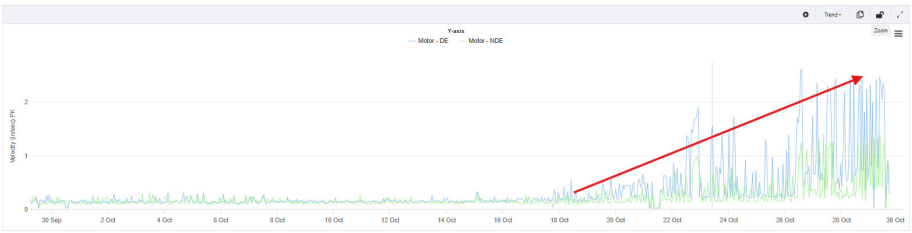
INDUSTRY:
STEEL MANUFACTURING

FAILURE MODE:
STRUCTURAL LOOSENESS

THE CHALLENGE

At a major North American integrated steel manufacturing facility, a conveyor motor began exhibiting increasing vibration velocity. Waites Conveyance™ condition monitoring identified a dominant 1× rotational frequency peak, indicating **possible structural looseness or misalignment.**





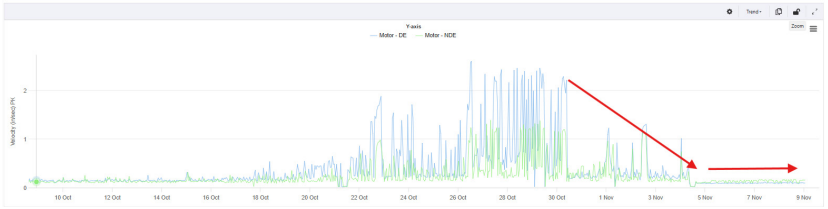


PROBLEM IDENTIFIED

As vibration climbed to **more than three times its initial level**, analysts elevated the issue to high urgency. Left unresolved, the mounting instability could have worsened, placing the motor, coupling, and conveyor operation at risk of unexpected failure and costly production interruptions.

RESOLUTION

Maintenance initially replaced the cracked bolt, but Waites continued observing vibration fluctuations and recommended further inspection. During a scheduled outage, the team replaced all motor mounting bolts and shims, installed a new coupling grid and cover, applied grease, and realigned the motor. Following these repairs, Waites observed improved overall vibration velocity. Analysts continued collecting data to verify long-term stability, while the intervention avoided an estimated eight hours of unplanned downtime.



RESULTS

COST SAVINGS	DOWNTIME AVOIDED	ALERT TO RESOLUTION
$130K	8 HRS	14 DAYS

ABOUT WAITES CONVEYANCE™

Waites Conveyance™ vibration monitoring detects developing mechanical issues before they disrupt production. With long-range wireless connectivity, scalable monitoring, and ImpactVue™ technology that identifies early lubrication breakdown and bearing damage, Waites helps manufacturers prevent unplanned downtime, protect throughput, and turn potential failures into planned maintenance.

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