

# In This Issue

Another Hendrik Group first!  
Air Supported Convex Curve  
for International Paper  
in Prattville, Al.

Patent granted to The Hendrik  
Group for its Air Supported  
Impact Section!

HoverGlide Q & A...The  
Hendrik Group, Inc. continues  
to answer the most asked  
questions about air supported  
belt technology.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

The Hendrik Group  
celebrates 25 years  
in Bulk Material Handling!

# Hover Glide

## Air Supported Belt Conveyors

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# The

# Hendrik

# Herald



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## IP Goes Green!

Prattville, AL – When the Forest Products Group of International Paper, the global leader in paper packaging and wood products, had some conveyor related issues, they did their research. Their hogged bark transfer conveyor was spilling at the loading section, spilling along the middle of the conveyor, spilling at the discharge and creating dust along the entire length of the run. All the spills and dust was building up on the support structure, carrying idlers and return strand, making the environment inside the building a housekeeping nightmare. Idlers were seizing and the tail/take-up pulley was being engulfed with material that was being carried back from the discharge.

The Hendrik Group was contacted and asked to provide a solution. A 42" air supported belt conveyor retrofit, with the entire length enclosed with gasketed, hip-roof covers, was designed to sit upon the existing conveyor support structure.

Now this is all fascinating, but rather common practice in the air supported belt conveyor industry. What makes this a unique application is that this conveyor is inclined with a convex curve going to horizontal at the discharge.

Up until this time, this profile of air supported belt conveyor had not been done without the aid of a conventional idler section at this juncture.

The Hendrik Group overcame the tension issues by making the convex curve out of stainless steel (stainless steel has a lower coefficient of friction), and providing a bare back belt. This resulted in a completely enclosed, entirely air supported belt conveyor that addressed all of the customers concerns. The conveyor runs wonderfully, without spillage or dust emissions along the overall length. Best of all, the overall project cost was significantly lower, relative to the cost of a completely new conveyor.

If your application needs upgrading or your conveyor upkeep/running costs are spiraling upward, a customized retrofit from The Hendrik Group may be the solution.

Please let us know how we may be of service.

# HoverGlide

## Q&A

The Hendrik Group fronts many questions about the air supported belt conveyor on a daily basis. We hope it is because people are as excited about this technology as we are. We will try to address your issues in this section, but of course, feel free to call us for additional information.

**Q:** May the air be recycled?

**A:** Yes. This may be done as long as the conveyor is totally enclosed. Air escapes between the plenum plate and belt for the entire length of the conveyor. This air may be captured at the discharge and/or loading areas. Depending on the dust generations, this air may be directed back to the fan through intake filters other than those supplied as standards.

**Q:** Is there a limit to the conveyor length?

**A:** Not really. Due to pressure drops in the plenums, we suggest placing a fan every 650-700 feet. However we can supply one fan for up to 1000 feet, depending on the width of the conveyor, material handled and the handling capacity.

**Q:** Are covers needed for operation?

**A:** No. We do recommend at least covering the first 20-30 feet at the loading area to reduce the dust generations.

More in the next issue.

## New Patent for THG!

The Hendrik Group, Inc. is proud to announce the granting of patent #7281624 for its **Air Supported Impact Section!** The replaceable air supported impact section was developed to minimize impact damage to the belt and degradation of the material resultant of the energy generated at the load point.

A urethane pad is cast directly into the plenum bed to cushion the impact force and minimize belt cover and carcass damage. The replaceable urethane pad has the same catenary curve profile as the plenum bed. Holes with the same diameter and spacing as the rest of the conveyor are cast into the impact pad to provide a continuous air film to support the belt and load. As material is dropped through the feed chute, it is centrally loaded onto the belt through the

Hendrik Group, Inc.'s exclusive belt loader. The impact section absorbs most of the "free falling energy". Since the belt floats on a cushion of air, the volume of material is immediately lifted and exited from the loading zone, eliminating damage to both the belt and the plenum section.



THG's impact section. Call for more information.

*Join the  
Hendrik  
Evolution!*

**Represented by:**



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**Thought for the day:** If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astonish ourselves. - Thomas A. Edison