



Press Release

30 August 2011
For immediate release

Beltcon 16 The International Materials Handling Conference

A triumph in presenting new technology to the materials handling industry

Beltcon 16, held in Johannesburg, South Africa on August 3 - 4, was as ever, a resounding success. Even more so in this 30th year of its existence, with the number of delegates increasing to the point of oversubscription. The accompanying exhibition, also oversubscribed, proved an attraction to members of the conveying industry and provided manufacturers and service suppliers with a forum to display the latest equipment, products and innovations. The Beltcon conferences, held every two years, present new developments in the industry and the latest in design, research and relevant case studies.

An appreciative audience was treated to two stimulating days of papers presented by local and overseas speakers, all of whom are in the vanguard of innovative research and who are regarded as leaders in the bulk materials handling and conveying industry.

Many topics were covered, and it is difficult to identify highlights, since the papers were all of a high technical standard and presented the latest thinking in materials handling technology. Spirited question and answer sessions followed each session, sparking discussions that will undoubtedly lead to further developments in the industry.

Among the papers delivered was Rudi Pieterse's (FLSmidth Roymec, South Africa) case study on the Zibulo Overland Conveyor, the longest single flight overland conveyor on the African continent. It is also one of the longest single flight overland conveyors in the world. In 2010, The South African Institute for Steel Construction awarded the project a Commendation for the exceptional use of steel.

Alan Exton's (Accrete Consulting, South Africa) paper on 'Magnetic Drive Technology When Applied to Belt Conveyors' informed designers and users of the methodology employed in ramping and running belt conveyors when applying magnetic drive technology. 'High-lift Belt Conveyors for Underground Hard Rock Haulage' by J C Spreadborough explored the proposed incorporation of three 2 000 metre lift hoisting streams in each production shaft of the Resolution Mine, and Prof dr.ir.G Lodewijks

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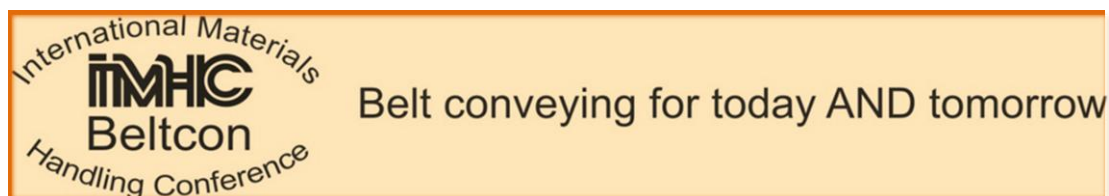
(Delft University of Technology, Netherlands) discussed new technological developments in the bulk solids and materials handling industry in his paper 'Energy Saving at Belt Conveyors by Speed Control'.

A number of papers focused on Discrete Element Modelling (DEM) bringing fresh insights to the use of this methodology.

The next Beltcon Conference, Beltcon 17, will be held mid-year in Johannesburg in 2013, continuing the tradition of bringing the latest ideas and groundbreaking technologies to the materials handling and belt conveying industry.

The programme, authors, paper synopses and general details can be accessed on the Beltcon web site.

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