

Tubular Drag Conveyors: Cable vs. Chain

Cost

CABLE

Medium upfront cost Low maintenance cost High efficiency



CHAIN

Medium upfront cost High maintenance cost Low efficiency



What are the standard preventative maintenance requirements for your conveyor system? Frequency of maintenance, how extensive and how easy the system is to access are all factors that need to be considered. A system that requires frequent maintenance and part replacements will affect production throughput and cost of operation. Although similar in the functionality for food processors, tubular chain and cable drag conveyors have distinct differences in components and operation. A closer look at these systems will help food manufacturers better understand which system would best support their dry food processing requirements.

What to Avoid: ROUND-LINK CHAIN

Round-link chain conveyors tear up sprockets resulting in excessive maintenance and prolonged downtime.

Cereals Coffee Rice **FOOD PROCESSING** Nuts Pet food **Powders** Seeds Snack foods and more



Tubular drag conveyors, both chain and cable systems, transport dry bulk food products gently to discharge points in totally enclosed, dust-free conveying tubes. This prevents foreign substances from contaminating the product stream and keeps dust from the transported product from escaping into the production environment, reducing both the incidence of health hazards and the potential for dust explosions.

CABLE

Reduced possibility of trapping food residue. More surface area exposed to chain.

CHAIN

Minimised direct contact with food.

√ 90° connects where food residue collects.

for easy cleaning.

Removable equipment \(\chi \) More difficult to clean and keep sanitary.

Cleaning Options

CABLE

Dry Cleaning options: Brush box, urethane wiper disc, air knife, sponge disc and sanitising cleaner, bristle brush.



Dry Cleaning options: brush box, chain knockers

Wet Cleaning Options: Foam agent, sanitising rinse, water rinse.



Cable is 25% stronger than chain



System Operations

CABLE

Fewer moving components and less friction means more system uptime.

Runs on lower horsepower.

CHAIN

Moving components add to possible system downtime when maintenance is required.

Requires more horsepower.

Other Uses



Suspension bridges, elevators, cranes, and aircraft control systems.



Bikes

and forklifts