



CASE STUDY - STEEL MILL - SIDE SHIFT (DIVE END) LINE SHAFT BEARINGS

Background

The shaft bearings in the hot rolled steel sections of the cooling bank were conventionally designed with bronze as the specified material, which could withstand the extremely hostile environment.

Disadvantages

- Bearings had to be replaced annually - downtime
- Bronze demonstrated typical wear characteristics of 12 - 15mm



Following consideration of the harsh environment in which the bearings operated, along with such factors as a torsional load of 35 tons, trial top and bottom Devlon S grade bushes were installed. A check 13 months later showed no wear. Following this success, Devlon was introduced as a suitable material throughout other bearing, bushing and wear strip applications.

Advantages

- Cost reduction of 75%
- Zero corrosion
- Weight reduction
- Increased life by a factor of 10
- Reduced lubrication
- Zero fire risk