



Summary

Industry:	Quarrying & Mining
Application:	Crane wheel bearings
Actual Saving:	Reduced lead time
Payback Period:	Immediate



Bearing Know-How Sources Alternative Solution

ISSUE

A large cement works has a crane that distributes the product onto the slag heaps and which runs along a set of rail tracks. The wheels on the crane have FAG taper roller bearings originally and last time they were purchased through ERIKS Broxburn branch, there was a massive lead time and a discussion took place about this product becoming obsolete.

The site have come to reorder the bearing from the crane wheels and as the discussion had gone before FAG had made the bearing obsolete and if required the made to order items would be on (at least) a 12 month lead time and the cost would be advised at a later date. The site had 2 bearings left and one wheel set takes 4 bearings.

SOLUTION

ERIKS needed to source an alternative manufacture of the product or look at redesigning the wheel assembly. We spoke to Timken who looked at the bearing reference number (FAG said this wasn't possible) an alternative was available, although a lead time of approximately 6 months would be needed to manufacture 16 off bearing which is a complete set of wheel bearings for the crane. This would satisfy the quarry for a period of time. The local service centre would hold half the stock and the customer would take delivery of half the batch to keep on site in case of emergencies.

An order was placed with ERIKS for the 16 bearings and an order was placed with Timken. Timken also had 2 bearings available for immediate delivery so the cement company had a set of wheel bearings ready for immediate use. This alternative comes from the railway wheel bearings and had to be crossed over through Timken technical. This also negated the need for expensive redesign time and complications.

OTHER BENEFITS

- Obsolete product resourced
- Impartial bearing support from ERIKS working with all leading manufacturers
- Significantly reduced leadtimes

FURTHER COMMENTS...

The customer was happy with the service and technical expertise ERIKS demonstrated with the help of their Bearing Core Competence Centre and in partnership with Timken.

MORE INFORMATION

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know-how makes the difference

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