

## ▶ BE A GLOBAL STEWARD BY UPGRADING BELT DRIVES

KRISTIAN CAMPBELL, INDUSTRIAL SALES MANAGER, DAYCO INC.

In the industrial powertrain world, there are three basic drive types used to provide speed change mechanically: Roller chains, V-belts, and synchronous belts. All offer advantages for specific applications and, in general, each is still considered the mechanical “fuse” in a piece of equipment due to its low cost replacement.

A significant opportunity that is commonly overlooked is the energy savings a company can gain by upgrading applicable machines to synchronous belt drives. At a minimum, converting mechanical drives to use synchronous belts would save 5% in energy usage per drive. That’s because a chain or

V-belt is at max 94% efficient compared to 99% for a synchronous belt. It may not sound like much, but when you look at how much energy different types of machines consume in a plant’s operations, you can see the potential for savings.

Using some general assumptions, let’s consider what changing to synchronous belt drives could save a plant in energy usage.

If an industrial plant spends \$1 million every month on electricity, and of the top 80% of machines in the plant (\$800,000 potential usage), half are viable candidates to switch to a synchronous drive, there is a potential energy savings per month

of at least 5% (\$400,000 x 5% = \$20,000). At a minimum, this plant could save \$240,000 per year in electricity by converting to synchronous belt drives.

Dayco’s industrial team can help you determine the best course of action and most ideal belts for the transition. In the first quarter of 2024, the company is introducing its three synchronous belt drive products to the North American market, which will offer coverage for all major industrial machines – making it an optimal time to discover how Dayco can help you and your customers become energy stewards for your companies.



CAMPBELL

## ▶ SELECT BELTS TO HELP CUSTOMERS LOWER TCO

JAMES HOSHIKO, DIRECTOR, PRODUCT MANAGEMENT, POWER TRANSMISSION, AMMEGA

Efficiency is more than a trend – it’s timeless. However, efficiency is a driver of the growing focus on total cost of ownership (TCO). TCO is emerging as the preferred tool among plant engineers and operators to balance priorities of minimizing costs, labor, and downtime when specifying solutions under today’s challenging market conditions. Power transmission belting should support a seamless operation. However, uninformed selections, poor material quality, and lack of maintenance or installation best practices can make belt drive applications a source of downtime and costly repairs – the last things any manufacturer needs right now.

However, there are some good guidelines to aid distributors in selecting belts that help customers lower TCO.

**1. Shop a belt for your specific needs.** Megadyne, an AMMEGA brand, makes this easy by offering its online drive calculation tool, Product Selection Pro, for users to quickly identify solutions based on application requirements, narrowing the choice to the best-suited belt across a wide power transmission portfolio, including timing belts and v-belts. This not only removes options that could unnecessarily limit speed and productivity, but also opens designers up to choices they may not have thought to

consider, like longer-life problem-solving belts, and options that align with company objectives – such as reducing noise to support worker wellbeing.

**2. Factor in maintenance and customer service when considering the choice of a belt.** Our customers are supported during each step of the purchasing process and beyond under the mantra of “maintain, don’t wait to replace.” AMMEGA’s customers have access to a B2B portal for convenient inventory management and ordering, as well as access to live customer service support, expert engineering assistance and online training materials. These tools help to ensure end-users are well equipped to minimize maintenance labor and downtime.

**3. Work as a team!** AMMEGA’s belting technology experts are available to our industrial distribution partners in the field to resolve issues, develop maintenance programs, and specify new product and service requirements to minimize TCO. AMMEGA also holds the industry’s unique Belting Technology Conference every couple of years, bringing the company’s global technical experts to work with end-users, distributors, and OEMs along with the best belting solutions to the industry.



HOSHIKO

# CONTINENTAL: THE POWER OF A PREMIUM BRAND

ROBERT B. JACK, MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER, POWER TRANSMISSION, CONTINENTAL

Continental prides itself on being an industry leader by offering a comprehensive line of premium power transmission belts for use in a wide variety of applications. By offering an unrivaled premium brand, your customers are assured of receiving the highest quality power transmission belts, which are made with superior materials and engineering.

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competition. That's because we sell much more than power transmission belts . . . Continental sells world-class solutions! Like our Conti Synchrochain Carbon belts that reduce drive width by up to 5 times, offer high-speed capability, are virtually maintenance-free, and deliver 2-3 times the life expectancy over standard v-belts.



Our SilentSync is our low-noise, low-vibration drive system that runs 19 dB quieter than straight-tooth synchronous drives – that's quieter than any other synchronous belt. Plus, it delivers up to 80% more power capacity over standard synchronous belts.

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