

Joest launches 4,3 m wide screen for coal market

Specialist vibrating equipment manufacturer and supplier Joest has designed and developed a 4,3 m wide banana screen to cater for the ongoing trend in the coal processing sector to opt for larger equipment so as to increase throughput and boost efficiencies.

"We have paid close attention to our clients' needs by assessing the failure modes of existing 4,3 m wide screens in this market and designed our screen with the focus on reduced downtime and ease of maintenance when required," says Derrick Alston, Chief Executive Officer, Joest.

"There are 50 to 60 screens of this size in the coal processing sector at present, many of which are approaching the point in their lifecycle where they will need to be replaced. Our new 4,3 m wide screen, which incorporates the latest technology and refinements, is therefore ideally positioned to fill this gap in the market," Alston adds.

The trend towards larger equipment in the coal processing sector is being driven

by the need to increase tonnage throughput and plant availability. "This has had an impact on the entire equipment supply chain, from screens through to cyclones and centrifuges. Joest has therefore been ideally positioned to incorporate the latest advances into its own 4,3 m wide screen, which means that the coal processing sector in South Africa can now be confident it is on par with what is happening internationally," Alston says.

Kenny Mayhew-Ridgers, General Manager: Engineering, Joest, explains that Joest's 'engineered excellence' approach to its development of its own 4,3 m wide screen focused on critical issues such as lifespan and structural integrity. "A screen may be sufficiently strong but can still wear away at certain points," he says. "We ensured that the mass of the screen was distributed correctly. The major ben-

efit for clients is that downtime is reduced dramatically. Added benefits of the Joest approach are that the screen can be designed for specific applications and can accommodate any existing footprint."

A particular design innovation of Joest's new screen is the use of circular hollow sections as cross members as opposed to traditional H-beams.

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A typical large-width banana screen in Joest's Kempton Park, Johannesburg facility that is destined for a colliery in South Africa.