

Engineered solutions to screening operations

Specialist vibrating equipment manufacturer and supplier Joest

Specialist vibrating equipment manufacturer and supplier Joest offer customised screens to match the metallurgical requirements of a customer's processes and the associated mechanical duty. Joest brands this benchmark its 'Engineered Solutions' approach to supplying its clients with a total solution.

"Our customised screens are often the preferred equipment due to the robust design and proven performance. Understanding the difference in design and duty for process plant screens, particularly sizing feed preparation in washing and Dense Media Separation (DMS) applications, is a key feature of our ongoing success in other sectors of the mineral processing industry," Derrick Alston, CEO of Joest, said.

Joest is currently making inroads into Africa. "We have supplied six vibrating screens to a gold mine in Liberia, eight vibrating screens to a gold mine in Mali and 15 vibrating screens to a gold mine in Burkina Faso," Yashin Ramdhin, general manager: sales, said.

"We have also supplied screens to Tanzania and have had vibratory feeders installed in a large coal mine in Mozambique. We are optimistic that our growth in Africa will go from strength to strength. This is largely due to the excellent reputation that the Joest brand has gained over the years.

"A particular advantage of Joest's equipment is the increased lifespan, structural integrity and ease of maintenance of the equipment, which is particularly important in remote areas in Africa."

According to Joest, the company has a wide selection of specialist equipment available, in order to meet the demands in customers' total vibrating screen and feeder requirements. Ramdhin said the company's specialist vibrating equipment forms part of a tailored solution approach to cater for a wide range of duties, "which allow our customers to reduce downtime and achieve production efficiencies at the lowest operating costs."



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One example of Joest's 'Engineered Solutions' strategy is its design and development of a 4.3 metres wide banana screen to cater for the ongoing trend in the coal processing arena 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 metres wide screens from other suppliers in this market and designed our screen with the focus on reduced downtime and ease of maintenance when required," Alston said. "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 metres wide screen, which incorporates the latest technology and refinements, is therefore ideally positioned to fill this gap in the market."

There is a need to increase tonnage throughput and plant availability; therefore there is a trend towards bigger equipment in the coal processing sector is being driven by the necessity. "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 metres 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."

Joest has made a huge investment in its 'Engineered Solutions' capabilities in order to be able to offer its clients this kind of intensive value added benefit. "It is the sum total of our experience, combined with the specific expertise we bring to analysing client problems and developing the most cost-effective and technologically relevant solutions," Alston says.

An example of this is Joest's in house development of a condition monitoring system for integration into its larger 4.3 metres screens. Alston said, "We supply this as part of a total equipment and solutions package. We usually advise our clients to make use of condition monitoring, especially due to the lack of technical skills in the mining industry in general." ■