

Location: Middelburg

Project Team: *Developer / Owner* Lorbrand / DRA DMO

Architect Jim

Project Manager Raymond Chown

Hot Dip Galvanizer Armco

Other

Tonnes of Steel: Conveyor SABS 657 (III) Structural 300WA

Project Inception Date: 17 November 2008

Project Value: R12 766 147.00

Tons of Steel: 380 tons

Description of Project: Conveyor Idlers & Frames

Introduction

Lorbrand is world recognised for its high quality and unique design of roller idlers. They have supplied conveyor systems around the world, including Austria Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Ghana, Germany, Indonesia, Peru, Phillipines, Senegal, Sweden, Tanzania, Taiwan, Uzbekistan, UK, USA, Venezuela and obviously here in South Africa.

This over-land conveyor is designed to bring the valuable coal from the mine to its final destination. Once running, standing time costs and effects everyone, therefore, a very high standard is expected by the customer. Lorbrand goes the extra mile where its product is concerned and has therefore built up a very good international and local reputation.

Innovation and the Promotion of Benefits

Hot dip galvanized components are protected from both the harsh environmental and physical and conditions which are found in a mining industry. Due to the fact that galvanizing cannot be easily chipped off, the long term protection outweighs that of painting. In addition galvanized conveyors need little or no maintenance where as painted structures need regular touch ups.

Improved Technology

Although this is not a new application, it is a tried and tested one, Lorbrand has changed the angle of the conveyor from a 45deg to a 90 deg. Lorbrand only accepts the best quality, from the steel right down to the quality of the galvanizing, which far exceeds the standard requirements. Due to the high quality and previous success of Lorbrand's products, this will lead to an increase demand for this type of service.

Promote Professionalism

As mentioned above this high standard of workmanship and galvanizing will definitely promote a strong tie and credibility between all parties involved, which will naturally lead to repeat orders and new projects.

The teamwork between Lorbrand and DRA enhances the credibility of both Lorbrand and the Galvanizer and could definitely be used in case study or a promotional publication.

Provide Service

As Lorbrand and their quality is well known, no training of the customer was needed. The customer and Lorbrand do intensive quality inspections and maintain a very high standard. The galvanizing process is closely monitored from loading black steel on the trucks, right through to the off loading, inspection and packing and loading the finished product for shipment.

Celebration of Superiority

The fact that this project promotes such a high standard of quality it naturally becomes a highly visible and discussed point of interest. The conveyor system in itself is a high profile structure as failure would lead to high losses.

Dissemination of Knowledge

In house training of all workers and management is of high importance to Lorbrand, as this not only increases the final quality of their workmanship but also promotes a team spirit and sense of ownership from all concerned.

Market Growth

The conveyor industry already has well known and recognised products, but by the use of high quality galvanizing on these products, we hope to promote further use of galvanizing, due to the long lifespan of the coating and the ease, to the fabricator, of the application.

Sustainable Resources

All stakeholders benefit by getting a high quality, long-lasting and virtually maintenance free structure. This must promote the use of galvanizing as well as Improve the already good name of the fabricator.

Exceptional Merit

This project was completed in record time, due to the precise planning from the fabricator. What also helped is the very quick turn around time offered by the Galvanizer.

Conclusion.

There was a very close team work and communication between the fabricator and the galvanizer, which on it's own promotes the galvanizing industry, so for this alone I believe that this entry is a sure winner.

Visual



Black Steel inspected and ready for dispatch to the Galvanizers



Even the black steel is strapped and loaded on smaller loads to avoid damage during transport



Each bundle of black steel is securely strapped, once again to avoid damage:



Parts being individually cleaned after galvanizing:



After cleaning each item is inspected and passed by the galvanizer's QC



Once passed by the QC the parts are once again carefully packed ready to go back to Lorbrand:

The next set of photos show just how much care and attention is given to delivering a high quality product.



Each item is palletised, strapped and then wrapped



Even the largest items are wrapped



Secure and ready for the trip



The same attention is given to the rollers, which one would tend to think are not important



Secure and wrapped for the trip.

Unfortunately, the mine will not allow us to take photos of the conveyor, until the rest of the project is completed.

We will have these photos of this conveyor within the next few weeks.

Below is a picture of a similar conveyor produced by Lorbrand, but unfortunately this particular one was not galvanized.