NSK CASE STUDY

INDUSTRY MATERIAL HANDLING

APPLICATION CRANE APPLICATION IN DISTRIBUTION CENTER

COST SAVINGS: \$62,074

A distribution center's automated crane was experiencing regular wheel bearing failures due to loss of grease. The customer had to change 40 wheel hub units over a 5 year period. NSK conducted a bearing failure analysis confirming that the wheel bearings were suffering inadequate lubrication along with radial pre-load. To overcome this, NSK recommended the use of pre-greased NSK Sealed Double Row Angular Contact Bearings with an increased radial internal clearance of C3. An 8-wheel trial was completed. No bearing failures were reported over 12 months. The sealed solution increased productivity and reduced maintenance costs resulting in a significant cost saving.

KEY FACTS

- Material handling and warehousing
- > Frequent bearing failure 40 wheel hubs changes in 5 years
- Failure caused significant production down time and additional cost
- Poor lubrication and particle ingress
- Radial pre-load problems
- > Expensive OEM parts
- NSK Solution: pre-greased Sealed Double Row Angular Contact Bearings with C3 clearance
- Productivity improvement & cost saving generated



Crane Wheel Hub

VALUE PROPOSALS

- NSK conducted an Application Review and a Bearing Failure Analysis showing poor lubrication along with radial pre-load.
- NSK engineering reviewed the original wheel design, recommending the use of a pre-greased sealed NSK Angular Contact Bearing, issuing modified wheel machining drawings and a fitting procedure for correct assembly
- A trial was completed on 8 modified crane wheels utilizing pre-loaded NSK Angular Contact Bearing with seals
- Trial resulted in increased bearing life, reduction of maintenance costs and increase in productivity.



PRODUCT FEATURES

- Seals RSR: made of nitrile rubber reinforced with an embedded steel disc
- Contact seals provide excellent protection against the ingress of contamination, reducing wear on the raceways and ball surface, which in turn reduces noise, vibration, and risk of lubricant failure
- > Accommodate radial and axial forces in both directions



COST-SAVINGS BREAKDOWN

NSK SOLUTION BEFORE COST P.A. COST P.A. OEM parts replacing 40 wheel hubs Replacement of 8 crane wheel hubs \$28,682 \$6,402 over 5 years over 5 years Loss of crane production \$32,010 Loss in production: no crane wheel failures \$0 Labor costs: Maintenance time \$10,000 Labor costs: Maintenance time \$2,000 Wheel hub modification, bearings plus NSK Engineering Analysis \$4,268 \$5,020 cost of machining **TOTAL COSTS** \$75,630 \$13,556

YOUR PARTNER FOR MACHINE OPTIMIZATION

Our AIP Added Value Program is based around a simple proposition: 'improvement pays'. By working with you throughout the AIP Value Cycle, we will help you achieve improvements in machine reliability, productivity and performance, all of which carry a tangible and measurable cost benefit – and we have the tools to prove it! That's what we mean by **improvement pays**.

