

Bilfinger Berger and ICSI in partnering agreement

Innovative Conveying Systems International (ICSI), which has developed a patented enclosed belt conveying system, has signed a partnering agreement with engineering giant Bilfinger Berger Services (Australia).



Second ICS at Baileys Fertilisers with hopper.

According to ICSI, the purpose of the partnering agreement is to jointly identify, pursue and construct projects utilising the Innovative Conveying System (ICS) technology, initially for the Australian and New Zealand markets.

Bilfinger Berger Australia is part of the international construction services company Bilfinger Berger AG. Through its subsidiaries - Abigroup, Baulderstone Hornibrook and Bilfinger Berger Services - Bilfinger Berger Australia is one of the country's leading engineering, construction and asset management groups.

Employing over 5,000 staff in Australia, the company has delivered some of Australia's major infrastructure and engineering projects. The firm had a turnover of \$3.7 billion in 2007.

Two ICS systems have been installed at Baileys Fertiliser...the first with a 125mm belt system is conveying 70tph of material with a bulk density of one... the second ICS conveys mulch, potting mix and soil conditioner at a rate of 10tph.

With the Innovative Conveying System (ICS), rather than material sitting on the belt as with conventional belts, the material sits inside the belt, eliminating dust emissions and product loss.

The ICS conveys a wide range of materials around tight curves, up steep inclines (up to 80 degrees) and over long distances. Thus,



Second ICS installation at Baileys Fertilisers shows ICS suspended from the factory roof conveying fertiliser to the bagging machine.



ICS conveying iron ore.

the ICS comes into its own when faced with a difficult or complex conveying requirement.

Michael Pietsch, managing director of ICSI said: "The partnering agreement is a major step forward for ICSI. Bilfinger Berger has a rich history dating back 125 years, so it has a comprehensive pool of knowledge and experience in material handling projects.

"This will accelerate the adoption of our belt systems by utilising their extensive presence and considerable project execution capabilities throughout the Australasian region and beyond. Our clients will be provided with a level of service we just couldn't match on our own at this stage.

"We believe that the ICS will provide Bilfinger Berger and its clients with the option of a unique and superior conveying solution, capable of conveying a wide range of material in the most demanding of applications in a safe, efficient and environmentally sound manner".

ICSI and Bilfinger Berger are currently working together on an Australian port project.

To date, two ICS systems have been installed at Baileys Fertiliser, a fertiliser manufacturing company in Western Australia.

The first ICS, with a 125mm belt system, is conveying 70tph of material with a bulk density of one, running at 2m/s and filled to 80 per cent capacity of the belt. It also negotiates a compound curve of 900 horizontal and 400 vertical within a radius of one metre.

The second ICS conveys mulch, potting mix and soil conditioner at a rate of 10tph from a feeder located outside the



Illustration of ICS curved belt cross-section.

manufacturing facility around 30m to the bagging machine located inside the manufacturing facility.

The ICS follows a straight conveying path with an incline of 45° before entering the manufacturing facility and being suspended from the roof. The material then discharges into the hopper for bagging. ICSI provided a full turnkey solution, including a 12m³ hopper with feeder and full control integration with the bagging machine.

ICSI also has two demonstration units at its own premises.

In terms of capacity, the ICS can accommodate up to 5,800t/h for short to medium lead time jobs, dependant on the type of material. The system can accommodate larger tonnages for jobs with long lead times.

ICSI has completed in-house testing on aspects of the belt including abrasion resistance and flex life. In addition, the core parts of the belt have been tested by the manufacturer. All tests have shown that the belt will operate for lengthy periods under various conditions.

TUNRA Bulk Solids Handling Research Associates has just completed a study into the sustainable loads of the J-Section for the ICS belt, showing very encouraging results. The results of this study will be available shortly.

"We are excited at the potential of a number of other projects earmarked for collaboration," concluded Pietsch. ■

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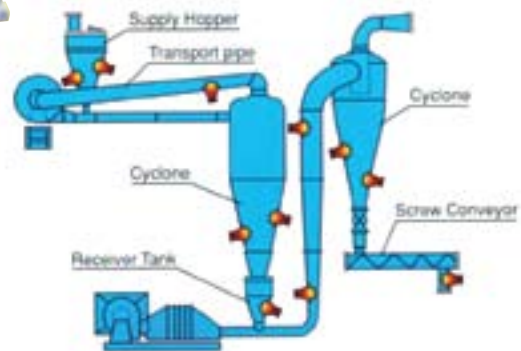


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