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Boston Gear

TB Wood's

Formsprag Clutch

Wichita Clutch

Marland Clutch

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Warner Linear

Delroyd Worm Gear

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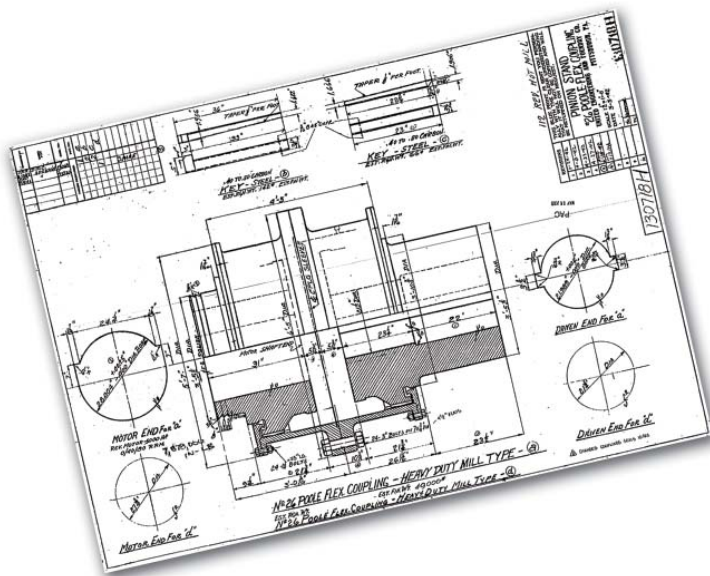
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60 Year Old Drawing Helps Rolling Mill Meet Tight Timeframe



As seen in
Aluminium Times
July/August, 2010



 **Ameridrives®**
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An Altra Industrial Motion Company

60 Year Old Drawing Helps Rolling Mill Meet Tight Timeframe

Paul Konkol, Business Unit Manager at Ameridrives Couplings describes the benefit of keeping manufacturing drawing data on older plant, in this case a gear coupling in a rolling mill.

A challenge many plant engineers face when addressing large, high-horsepower processes is where to turn when replacements or upgrades are needed. Many metals processing, mine operations, power plants and similar facilities in North America have core processes designed and built 50 or more years ago. Given the specific nature of these processes many key components are unique and are not off-the-shelf type products.

Such was the case for a large North American aluminium rolling mill company supplying aircraft-grade aluminium product that was updating a core process in their facility to maintain competitiveness in the new century. A worn 70+ inch gear coupling was part of the primary drive train. The original coupling had been designed and built by Poole, Engineering & Machine Co., formerly based in Baltimore and a company now long out of business. Fortunately, the facility was partnered with a distributor who brought the challenge to Ameridrives Couplings, part of Altra Industrial Motion. Several years ago Ameridrives / TB Wood's purchased the intellectual property of Deck Manufacturing and the assets of The Sier Bath Deck Gear Corp. Many of the drawings for Poole couplings including the drawings for this worn coupling were part of that acquisition.

“Having access to the original Poole drawing was a big benefit because it was the only document available with customer interface dimensions required to design replacement spindles,” said Jim Sherred, Mill Products Engineer, Ameridrives. “Without the Poole drawing, used spares would have needed to be shipped off site for detailed examination and assumptions regarding wear to inspected surfaces and tolerances would have been required.”

According to Sherred, “Having the drawings saved at least a month of inspection and engineering work. Even with a detailed inspection, an engineer would have to use judgment to determine actual fits used by an engineer in 1942.” Armed with the design details of the original Poole coupling, Ameridrives engineers worked closely with the customer's facility engineers. Together they identified two key features of Ameridrives current, state-of-the-art gear coupling technology that could be incorporated into the original 60 year old design to bring added value to the aluminium plant process.



New Ameridrives replacement coupling featured crowned gear teeth and tangential keys and grooves cut into the bore to accommodate a customer-supplied seal

About Altra Industrial Motion

Altra Industrial Motion (NASDAQ:AIMC) is a leading multi-national designer, producer and marketer of a wide range of electromechanical power transmission products. The company brings together strong brands covering over 40 product lines with production facilities in nine countries.

Altra's leading brands include Boston Gear, Warner Electric, TB Wood's, Formsprag Clutch, Wichita Clutch, Industrial Clutch, Ameridrives Couplings, Kilian Manufacturing, Marland Clutch, Nuttall Gear, Stieber Clutch, Twiflex Limited, Bibby Transmissions, Matrix International, Inertia Dynamics, Huco Dynatork, Ameridrives Power Transmission, Delroyd Worm Gear and Warner Linear. For information on any of these technology leaders, visit www.AltraMotion.com or call 815-389-3771.



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