



PANTHER® XT BELT EXTENDS EXTRUDER BELT LIFE FOR PLASTICS RECYCLER

CHALLENGE ▼

A plastics recycler was struggling with frequent mechanical failures in their resin extruders caused by a competitor’s v-belts. The original 8-groove metric sheave and v-belt system wasn’t durable enough for continuous, high-throughput operations, and required replacement every two weeks. Each change meant four hours of downtime and three technicians, leading to increased costs and reduced plant efficiency.

TIMKEN BELTS SOLUTION ▼

To solve this, the recycler teamed up with an industrial distributor and Timken Belts experts. After careful on-site maintenance training and analysis, they upgraded to the Panther® XT synchronous belt and drive system. The Panther XT belt features advanced tooth profiles and reinforced construction, offering greater power transmission and resistance to wear—ideal for demanding extrusion work. Though the initial conversion cost was higher, it was quickly offset by savings in replacement parts, reduced labor costs, and increased production.

RESULTS THAT MATTER ▼

At time of publication—nine months post-conversion, the Panther XT belt remains in excellent condition, with minimal wear. While previous belts lasted only two weeks, the Panther XT belt is projected to last up to two years—a 52-fold improvement in service life. The facility has seen a sharp reduction in maintenance frequency and downtime, increased production uptime, and lower overall maintenance costs. Technicians can now focus on process optimization instead of emergency repairs.

ANNUAL COSTS	COMPETITOR BELTS	TIMKEN BELTS	ANNUAL SAVINGS
BELTS PURCHASES	\$26,395	\$1,827	\$24,568
DOWNTIME*	\$312,000	\$12,000	\$300,000
LABOR**	\$6,240	\$240	\$6,000
		TOTAL SAVINGS	\$330,568

* Based on @ \$3,000/incident
** Based on @ \$60/hour



Timken® belts are part of The Timken Company’s growing portfolio of engineering bearings and industrial motion products. Timken Belts manufactures premium-performance power transmission belts that help keep industry in motion and the world more productive.

Performance Driven. Performance Proven.

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