

Case Study

Chopped Fiberglass

Johns Manville, a Berkshire Hathaway company, manufactures premium-quality building and mechanical insulation, commercial roofing, glass fibers and nonwoven materials for commercial, industrial and residential applications. Johns Manville products are used in a wide variety of industries including building products, aerospace, automotive and transportation, filtration, commercial interiors, waterproofing and wind energy.

Johns Manville provides products to more than 85 countries and operates 44 manufacturing facilities in North America, Europe, and China. UniTrak was first approached by Johns Manville to convey the glass microspheres used to produce fiberglass at the Defiance, Ohio, plant. Since that initial installation, UniTrak has helped Johns Manville to successfully convey dried chopped fiberglass at other key manufacturing facilities.



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CUSTOMER

- Johns Manville

INDUSTRY

- Building Products

MATERIAL

- Chopped Strand Fiberglass

EQUIPMENT

- Twin S-2 PEC TipTrak™

01 Challenges

Conveying dried chopped fiberglass is not without its challenges. The product is friable and tends to accumulate static charge when moved or handled. In addition, the light nature of the product makes it susceptible to spillage as it is transported on a conveyor.

To help Johns Manville select the right conveyor for the job, UniTrak conducted extensive testing of the Johns Manville fiberglass material at its product test facility. This testing showed that TipTrak™ S-5 PEC bucket elevators were an ideal equipment choice for assuring product integrity, preventing spillage and static charge buildup, while achieving the desired throughput rates.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT US

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02 Customization

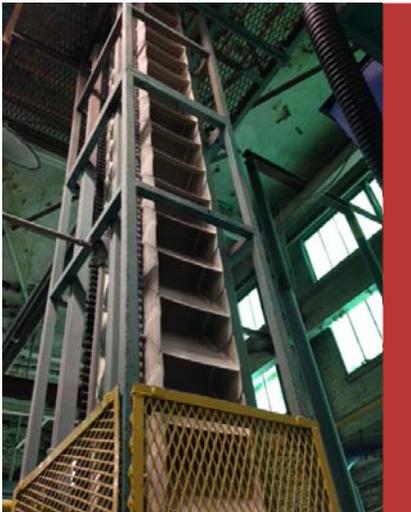
The TipTrak™ S-5 PEC units supplied to Johns Manville for the handling of dried chopped strand fiberglass were designed to convey product at the rate of 5,000 lbs per hour at 50 PCF. The fiberglass is 1/8" to 5/8" long and was being fed from the dryer going to a screener, discharging at a height of 18' -6".

TipTrak™ conveyors are renowned for their gentle handling and spillage-free operation. The fully interlocking bucket assembly of TipTrak™ conveyors prevent product spillage and, together with the TipTrak™ rubber *beltchain*, ensure that product moves through the conveyor without degradation or damage.

To address the issue of static buildup, UniTrak supplied TipTrak™ units outfitted with a fully-conductive option package. The units are equipped with a fully conductive rubber *beltchain* and buckets to prevent static charge buildup, and the complete grounding path ensures that any static charge is successfully dissipated.

“ It’s virtually maintenance-free’ (on why he liked the TipTrak Bucket Conveyor)

- Randy Bernard, Plant mechanic, Johns Manville, Defiance, Ohio plant



03 Outcome

Johns Manville is successfully using TipTrak™ conveyors within its production operations at multiple facilities with the USA.

TipTrak™ S-5 units supplied to the Waterville, Ohio and the Cleburne, Texas plants for the handling chopped strand fiberglass have performed with excellent reliability and superior product handling. Equipped with fully conductive options, these conveyors are handling friable product without damage or degradation, and the negative consequences of static charge accumulation have been avoided.

TipTrak™ S-2 units first supplied to the Defiance, Ohio plant in 1968 for the conveying of glass microspheres into the melting pot are still performing reliably today. These conveyors are operating in a severe service environment where temperatures in the melting pot can reach 1800°F.

In every installation, Johns Manville has enjoyed the exceptional reliability offered by TipTrak™ conveyors. Because TipTrak™ conveyors have few moving parts and rubber beltchain never stretches or needs lubrication, planned maintenance needs are minimal and unplanned breakdowns are very rare.