## **INTERNATIONAL MINING PROFILES**



## **WEBA CHUTE SYSTEMS BENCHMARK TRANSFER POINTS**

Transfer points are finally being recognised as key elements in plants, and Mark Baller, Managing Director of Weba Chute Systems, says this has seen other players enter the market as they too begin to recognise transfer points as critical to the operational success of plants.



The Weba Chute System is a custom engineered transfer point solution designed to address the numerous issues plants face with material movement.

"As the market leader with more than 4,000 Weba Chute Systems successfully operating globally, we welcome legitimate competition as it keeps companies motivated and customers are ensured of continual improvement in both product and service delivery," he says. Significantly, the global benchmark for transfer points is the Weba Chute System.

Weba Chute Systems pioneered the engineered transfer point and extensive research and development by the company identified the root causes of numerous problems related to materials handling and transfer points. These include lack of material control resulting in excessive impact and poor belt loading, disproportionate wear, excessive dust emissions and spillage.

Today the Weba Chute System is a custom engineered transfer point solution designed to address the numerous issues plants face with material movement. Each chute system is engineered for the specific application and this is what accounts for the success that these transfer points have achieved worldwide.

## **Experience counts**

Baller says that what makes it difficult for new entrants to get it correct is that there are so many factors which affect the material during its movement through the plant. Add to this, he says, each transfer point will have completely different requirements depending on what stage of the process flow the material is at. "Experience cannot be underestimated

when it comes to correctly engineering a chute system as each application is completely different," he says.

"Weba Chute Systems has an enormous advantage over the newbies given that we have over 26 years' experience and a reference base that dates back that far," Baller says. Each of the chute system solutions provided by Weba Chute Systems is a custom engineered transfer point designed to specifically deal with the exact application requirements.

During the design phase all

Weba Chute Systems pioneered the engineered transfer point and it was through the company's ability to view it in a completely different way that industry is today able to control the flow of material with all the benefits that this brings.

dust. Using a 'supertube' or cascade scenario 95% of the material runs on material in a tumbling motion which further reduces wear.



*Control of material from the transfer point is critical to optimise belt life.* 

"Weba Chute Systems takes great pride in the fact that the transfer point is no longer the stepchild of the process plant and has been given its rightful position as an integral and important part of the operation," Baller says.

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aspects such as belt speed, belt width, material size, shape and throughput are taken into account. The custom design allows control of the direction, flow and velocity of a calculated volume and type of material in each individual application and at the same time drastically reduces

> Skill and expertise are the major differentiators that allow Weba Chute Systems to produce transfer point systems engineered specifically for a given application requirement.