

# Installation & Maintenance Best Practices

## Wear Proper Clothing

- › Never wear loose or bulky clothes, such as neckties or lab coats, around belt drives
- › Wear gloves while inspecting sheaves or sprockets to avoid injuries
- › Wear safety glasses to avoid eye injuries

## Always Maintain Safe Access to Belt Drives

- › Keep area around drives free of obstructions
- › Floors should be clean to ensure good footing and balance while working
- › Disconnect power supply to the machine before doing any work. Follow established lock-out/tag-out procedures

## Drive Guards

- › Every belt drive must be properly guarded
- › Guards must be designed and installed according to OSHA standard

## Belt Guard Guidelines

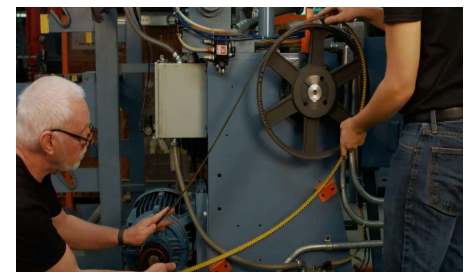
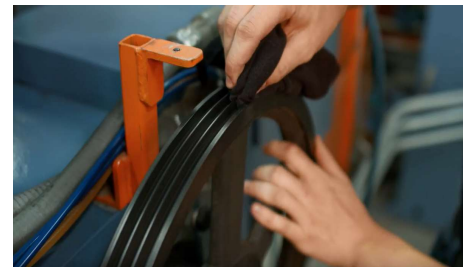
- › Encapsulates drive and includes grills or vents for good ventilation
- › Allows access for belt inspection
- › Removed and replaced easily if damaged
- › Should protect the drive from weather, debris and damage

## Simple Drive Inspection

- › Look and listen for any unusual vibration or sound while observing the guarded drive in operation. Drive should operate smoothly and quietly.
- › Inspect guard for looseness or damage. Keep it free of buildup.
- › Accumulation of material on the guard acts as insulation and could cause drive to run hotter. The effect of temperature on belt life is important.
- › If there is oil and grease dripping from the guard, it may indicate overlubricated bearings. If this material gets on the belt, it may lead to early belt failure.
- › Check motor mounts for proper tightness. Take-up slots or rails should be clean and lightly lubricated.

## How Often to Inspect

- › Critical nature of equipment
  - › Critical Drives – A visual and hearing inspection may be needed every one to two weeks
  - › Normal Drives – With most drives, a quick visual and hearing inspection can be done once a month
- › Drive operating cycle, environmental factors, and temperature extremes



## Installation & Maintenance Tools

Proper tension, installation and maintenance can extend belt life and reduce costly downtime. Continental's preventative maintenance tools include:

### TensionRite® Belt Frequency Meter

The TensionRite® Belt Frequency Meter from Continental provides a simple, repeatable and reliable method for tensioning belts using optical technology. It displays the natural vibration frequency of a belt strand so you can closely monitor belt tension. The meter measures the belt vibration in hertz and calculates the strand tension force in units of newtons and pounds-force.



Grainger Item #: 3PEA8  
Conti Item #: 20287454

### Tension Tester Plunger

When used with a straight edge or tight string, the deflection gauge is an aid in setting the proper belt tension for a drive system. The Tension Tester compares force measured with recommended values for your application. If values are not equal, adjust the belt tension and repeat force measurement until force matches target value.



Large & Small Tension  
Tester Plunger Conti Item  
#: 20083777 - 200448822

### Laser Alignment Tool

This unique Laser Alignment Tool from Continental quickly aligns drive components, improving efficiency while reducing costly maintenance.

- › Detects both parallel and angular misalignment
- › Easier to use than conventional methods of misalignment detection
- › Affixes to most pulley and sprocket types
- › Suitable for nonmagnetic pulleys and sprockets
- › Single-operator friendly



Grainger Item #: 3PEA7  
Conti Item #: 20245089

### Sheave Gauge

A sheave gauge can be used to identify voids that indicate dishing or uneven sheave wear. Additionally, they can be used to identify the belt cross section when no branding is visible.



Conti Item #: 20044915

### MaximizerPro

Drive selection analysis software program for easy & accurate selection of energy saving belt solutions. MaximizerPro is available by visiting:

<http://maxpro.continental-industry.com/>



### Make Power Smart

Make Power Smart app is the perfect support for the maintenance of belt drives. The app helps you get the most out of your MRO and energy dollars. It enables you and your team to properly install belts, evaluate a drive, and help assist your upgrade to a more energy efficient solution while being able to reach out for assistance and educate you and your team.

DOWNLOAD  
MAKE POWER SMART  
FOR ALL THE POWER  
AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

