



# Static & Fracture Analysis and Design Optimization of Drive Shaft in Long Distance Belt Conveyor

Manish Bhargava, Khagendra Pathak, Ankur

**Abstract:** In current age of process industry, demand of long-distance belt conveyor is rapidly increasing. For which lot of research works are under process to improve performance & durability of long-distance belt conveyor. For which there is lot of scope available to use high strength material to manufacture belt conveyor mountings & accessories to increase their durability & to reduce maintenance, which directly increase performance of long distance belt conveyor. During our analysis, it was found that there are major failure issues being reported for conveyor's drive shaft. It was also understood that major drive shaft failure was due to incorrect design & wrong material selection for conveyor drive shaft. The objective of this paper is to optimize design & material selection of drive shaft for long distance belt conveyor. We have modified drive shaft designs over conventional shaft design & analyzed these designs with different high strength material materials. We have also concentrated to reduce weight and assembly cost of drive shaft which include drive shaft with Plummer blocks & bearings arrangement. For design optimization of conveyor's drive shaft various design software's i.e. CAD NX and ANSYS have been used. Static Structural analysis performed to find out directional & total deformation and fracture analysis performed to find out values of stress intensity factors & J integral of drive shaft, under defined identical loading & boundary condition. Design Modelling done on CAD NX & Finite Element Analysis done on ANSYS.

**Keywords:** Conventional Shaft, Drive Shaft, CAD NX, ANSYS, EN8, EN9, EN24

## I. INTRODUCTION

Belt Conveyor Equipment, which is used to transport material from one place to another place. These are widely used nowadays in various industries, i.e. Thermal Power Plant; cement Plant, Steel Plant, Aggregates Crushing & Screening plant etc. Long Belt Conveyor used to carry material falling from preceding conveyor via discharge chute or silos etc. to discharge point. It carry material for long distance with higher capacity. Many times due to requirement conveyor capacity increased, due to which more torque need to be transmitted by drive motor to drive shaft of belt conveyor.

Due to sudden increase in conveyor loading, starting motor torque also increased which leads to failure of drive shaft of belt conveyor. Effective belt tension also increase due to increment of material loading, for which belt tension on tight side also increase which also increase bending moment at conveyor drive shaft, which lead failure of drive shaft. In Long distance belt conveyor's drive assembly, Drive shaft directly coupled with gearbox via low speed coupling & gearbox input shaft directly coupled with induction motor shaft via high speed coupling. When induction motor started it transmit high value torque to drive shaft through gearbox. Any fluctuation in motor torque due conveyor overloading, change in supply voltage or current to induction motor, leads to failure of drive shaft.

Conveyor drive shaft generally made of EN-8 material. Conventional rolled shaft design followed for shaft manufacturing, drive shaft is mounted in Plummer blocks and bearings arrangement on both sides.

To increase power transmission reduction in moment of inertia required, To reduce shaft weight design modification of shaft done. For which rolled shaft modify to stepped shaft. Stepped shaft further modify with stepped shaft with chamfers at steps. Which leads to reduction in shaft weight & uniform stress distribution in Shaft Shaft Material also change from existing EN-8 to EN-9 & EN-24, which are more stiffer and higher strength material. These Materials are more specific to design for which shaft strength, stiffness and weight matter in design.

## II. SPECIFICATIONS OF DRIVE SHAFT

The Drive shaft mounted in drive pulley which is further rest in Plummer Block & bearing arrangement on both sides. Drive shaft material is generally Structural steel, which change to EN-8 now days. When shaft made of material EN8 fail then replacement of EN8 required with high strength material. In this Paper Existing roller Shaft with Material EN-8 analyzed. For which design modification done with 2 new proposed design & existing material replaced with new high strength materials EN9 & EN24. Selection of shaft diameter done based on Torisional, Bending Moment and Deflection, for Materials EN8, EN9 & EN24. Static structural analysis & fracture analysis performed for all new design & material, under identical loading & boundary conditions.

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\*Correspondence Author(s)

**Dr. Manish Bhargava**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Agartala, Tripura, India  
manish257\_2000@yahoo.com

**Khagendra Pathak**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Maharishi Arvind Institute of Engineering and Technology Jaipur, Rajasthan, India  
pkhagendra@gmail.com

**Ankur**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Maharishi Arvind Institute of Engineering and Technology Jaipur, Rajasthan, India  
ankur.mech05@gmail.com

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### A. Modeling & meshing of drive shafts

CAD NX used for modeling of drive Shafts, which works on Parametric Feature based module to create Solid Models and Assemblies. Numerical Parameters of Drive shafts are diameter of circle & Length of Line. Geometric Parameter are Tangent to circle, concentric, Horizontal or Vertical etc. Numeric Parameters are Associates with geometric parameters.

In this Paper, we have analyzed, 3 different Shaft Designs which are further analyzed for 3 different types of Materials EN-8, EN-9 & EN-24.

For Static Structural Analysis & Fracture analysis which performed on FEA software- ANSYS for all Total 9 Cases, firstly modeling of drive shaft done then correct mesh pattern performed in ANSYS.

Case-1:- Rolled Shaft with Shaft Material of Construction EN-8

Case-2:- Rolled Shaft with Shaft Material of Construction EN-9

Case-3:- Rolled Shaft with Shaft Material of Construction EN-24

Case-4:- Modified stepped drive shaft with Material of Construction EN-8

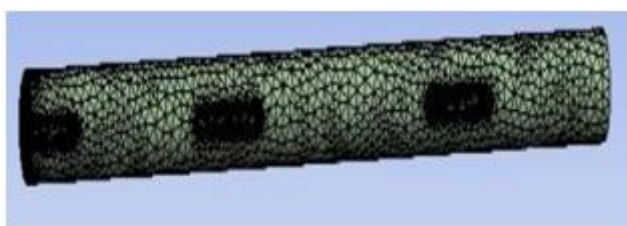
Case-5:- Modified stepped drive shaft with Material of Construction EN-9

Case-6:- Modified stepped drive shaft with Material of Construction EN-24

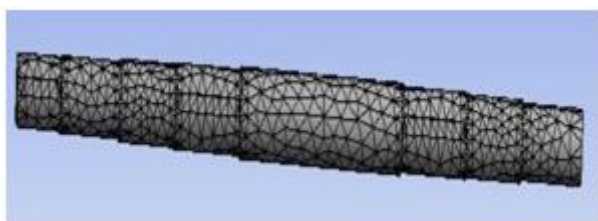
Case-7:- Modified stepped drive shaft with chamfers cut at steps, with Material of Construction EN-8

Case-8:- Modified stepped drive shaft with chamfers cut at steps, with Material of Construction EN-9

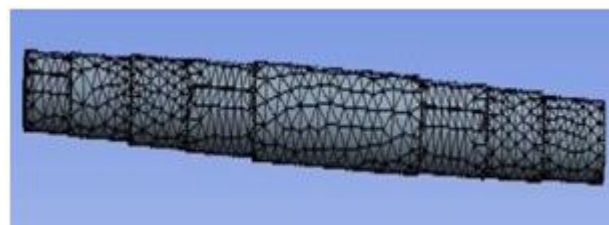
Case-9:- Modified stepped drive shaft with chamfers cut at steps, with Material of Construction EN-24



**Fig. 1. Existing Shaft Design 1- Modelling & Meshing (For Case 1, Case 2 & Case 3)**



**Fig. 2. Modified Shaft Design 2- Modelling & Meshing (For Case 4, Case 5 & Case 6)**



**Fig. 3. Modified Shaft Design 3- Modelling & Meshing (For Case 7, Case 8 & Case 9)**

### B. Properties of Material of construction for Drive Shaft

**Table- I: Engineering Properties of Drive Shaft Materials**

S. No.	Engineering Data Properties	EN8	EN9	EN24
1	Density (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	7850	7850	7850
2	Young's Modulus (MPa)	2.0 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	2.1 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	2.1 x 10 <sup>5</sup>
	Poisson's Ratio	0.3	0.3	0.3
	Bulk Modulus (MPa)	1.667 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	1.75 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	1.75 x 10 <sup>5</sup>
	Shear Modulus (MPa)	7.6923 x 10 <sup>4</sup>	8.0769 x 10 <sup>4</sup>	8.0769 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
3	Co-efficient of Thermal Expansion	11 C <sup>-1</sup>	11 C <sup>-1</sup>	10 C <sup>-1</sup>
4	Isotropic Secant Co-efficient of Thermal Expansion Reference Temperature (°C)	20	20	20
5	Ultimate Tensile Strength (MPa)	660	750	850
6	Yield Strength (MPa)	465	570	650

### C. Geometry specification and Boundary Conditions

**Table- II: Geometric Specification & Boundary Conditions**

Descriptions	For Case-9
Remote force to be applied on shaft	74894.08 N
Materials	EN24
Length X	170 mm
Length Y	170 mm
Length Z	2120 mm
Volume	44407162.87mm <sup>3</sup>
Mass	347.74 kg
Centroid X	-2.7447e-005 mm
Centroid Y	-0.67348 mm
Centroid Z	-1661 mm
Moment of Inertia Ip1	2.0688e+009 kg·mm <sup>2</sup>
Moment of Inertia Ip2	2.069e+009 kg·mm <sup>2</sup>
Moment of Inertia Ip3	1.9413e+007 kg·mm <sup>2</sup>
Nodes	8564
Elements	5071

### III. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

#### A. Static Structural Analysis of drive shafts

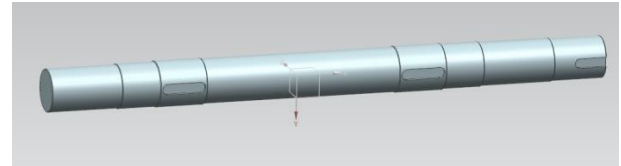
Static Structural analysis performed to know shape deformation under identical loading & boundary conditions. In this paper directional deformation & total deformation calculated to find out optimized design based on deformation for all 9 cases. From FEA deformation results lowest Directional & Total deformation value are find out for Case-9, which shows that modified shaft design 3 (stepped shaft with chamfers) with material EN24is optimized design under identical loading & boundary condition.

**Table- III: Static Structural Analysis Directional Deformation**

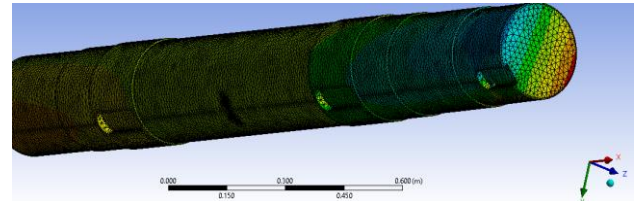
Sr. No.	Case Study	Design Description		Directional Deformation	
		Design	Material	Minimum	Maximum
				m	m
1	Case-1	Design-1	EN-8	-8.12E-03	8.12E-03
2	Case-2	Design-1	EN-9	-8.12E-03	8.12E-03
3	Case-3	Design-1	EN-24	-7.16E-03	7.20E-03
4	Case-4	Design-2	EN-8	-7.23E-03	7.13E-03
5	Case-5	Design-2	EN-9	-7.23E-03	7.13E-03
6	Case-6	Design-2	EN-24	-6.97E-03	6.54E-03
7	Case-7	Design-3	EN-8	-8.93E-04	5.05E-04
8	Case-8	Design-3	EN-9	-8.93E-04	5.07E-04
9	Case-9	Design-3	EN-24	-7.96E-04	5.04E-04

**Table- IV: Static Structural Analysis Total Deformation**

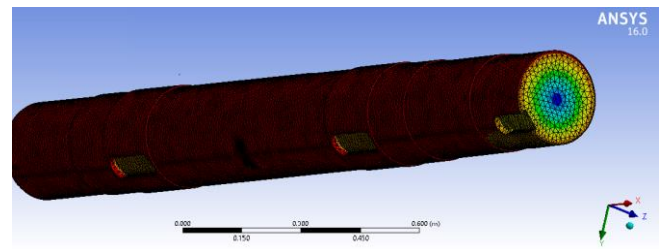
Sr. No.	Case Study	Design Description		Total Deformation	
		Design	Material	Minimum	Maximum
				m	m
1	Case-1	Design-1	EN-8	1.40E-05	1.55E-03
2	Case-2	Design-1	EN-9	1.40E-05	1.55E-03
3	Case-3	Design-1	EN-24	3.79E-05	1.45E-03
4	Case-4	Design-2	EN-8	1.22E-05	1.35E-03
5	Case-5	Design-2	EN-9	1.22E-05	1.35E-03
6	Case-6	Design-2	EN-24	1.36E-05	1.35E-03
7	Case-7	Design-3	EN-8	2.86E-06	7.41E-04
8	Case-8	Design-3	EN-9	2.86E-06	7.41E-04
9	Case-9	Design-3	EN-24	2.66E-06	7.34E-04



**Fig. 4. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24, For Case 9**



**Fig. 5. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24 Static Structural Analysis-Directional Deformation**



**Fig. 6. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24 Static Structural Analysis-Total Deformation**

#### B. Fracture Analysis of drive shaft

Fracture analysis performed to know stress distribution in drives shaft under identical loading & boundary conditions. In this paper, for fracture analysis stress intensity factors value for SIFS K1, SIFS K2, SIFS K3 & J-Integral value have been calculate for all 9 cases of drives shaft. From fracture analysis results its shows that value of SIFS K1, SIFS K2, SIFS K3 & J Integral find lowest for case 9, which shows that modified shaft design 3 (stepped shaft with chamfers) with material EN24 is optimized design under identical loading & boundary condition.

**Table- V: Fracture Analysis SIFS K1**

Sr. No.	Case Study	Design Description		SIFS K1	
		Design	Material	Minimum	Maximum
				Pa.mm <sup>^</sup> (0.5)	Pa.mm <sup>^</sup> (0.5)
1	Case-1	Design-1	EN-8	-1.71E+08	3.99E+07
2	Case-2	Design-1	EN-9	-1.71E+08	3.93E+07
3	Case-3	Design-1	EN-24	-1.58E+08	3.91E+07
4	Case-4	Design-2	EN-8	-2.16E+07	1.94E+07
5	Case-5	Design-2	EN-9	-2.16E+07	1.94E+07
6	Case-6	Design-2	EN-24	-2.16E+07	1.94E+07
7	Case-7	Design-3	EN-8	-2.33E+06	1.11E+07
8	Case-8	Design-3	EN-9	-2.33E+06	1.11E+07
9	Case-9	Design-3	EN-24	-1.96E+06	1.02E+07



Table- VI: Fracture Analysis SIFS K2

Sr. No.	Case Study	Design Description		SIFS K2	
		Design	Material	Minimum	Maximum
				Pa.mm <sup>^(0.5)</sup>	Pa.mm <sup>^(0.5)</sup>
1	Case-1	Design-1	EN-8	-3.12E+07	4.19E+07
2	Case-2	Design-1	EN-9	-7.27E+07	3.36E+07
3	Case-3	Design-1	EN-24	-8.27E+06	3.24E+06
4	Case-4	Design-2	EN-8	-8.45E+06	3.20E+06
5	Case-5	Design-2	EN-9	-8.43E+06	3.20E+06
6	Case-6	Design-2	EN-24	-8.43E+06	3.20E+06
7	Case-7	Design-3	EN-8	-4.17E+06	1.44E+06
8	Case-8	Design-3	EN-9	-4.17E+06	1.44E+06
9	Case-9	Design-3	EN-24	-1.15E+06	1.17E+06

Table- VII: Fracture Analysis SIFS K3

Sr. No.	Case Study	Design Description		SIFS K3	
		Design	Material	Minimum	Maximum
				Pa.mm <sup>^(0.5)</sup>	Pa.mm <sup>^(0.5)</sup>
1	Case-1	Design-1	EN-8	-2.75E+07	4.32E+07
2	Case-2	Design-1	EN-9	-2.67E+07	3.29E+07
3	Case-3	Design-1	EN-24	-2.00E+07	1.68E+07
4	Case-4	Design-2	EN-8	-8.93E+06	1.77E+06
5	Case-5	Design-2	EN-9	-8.93E+06	1.77E+06
6	Case-6	Design-2	EN-24	-8.93E+06	1.77E+06
7	Case-7	Design-3	EN-8	-7.31E+05	3.50E+05
8	Case-8	Design-3	EN-9	-7.31E+05	3.50E+05
9	Case-9	Design-3	EN-24	-3.40E+05	3.19E+05

Table- VIII: Fracture Analysis J-Integral

Sr. No.	Case Study	Design Description		J-integral	
		Design	Material	Minimum	Maximum
				J/m2	J/m2
1	Case-1	Design-1	EN-8	-4.70E+05	1.26E+07
2	Case-2	Design-1	EN-9	-6.20E+04	1.38E+07
3	Case-3	Design-1	EN-24	-1.10E+04	8.24E+06
4	Case-4	Design-2	EN-8	-5.08E+05	3.05E+06
5	Case-5	Design-2	EN-9	-5.08E+05	3.05E+06
6	Case-6	Design-2	EN-24	-3.08E+05	3.05E+06
7	Case-7	Design-3	EN-8	-4.20E+05	2.40E+06
8	Case-8	Design-3	EN-9	-4.20E+05	2.40E+06
9	Case-9	Design-3	EN-24	-4.58E+03	1.69E+04

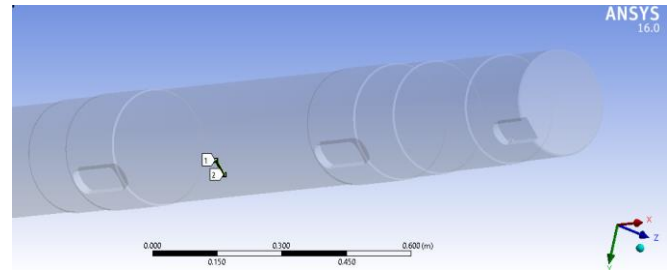


Fig. 7. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24 Fracture Analysis-SIFS K1

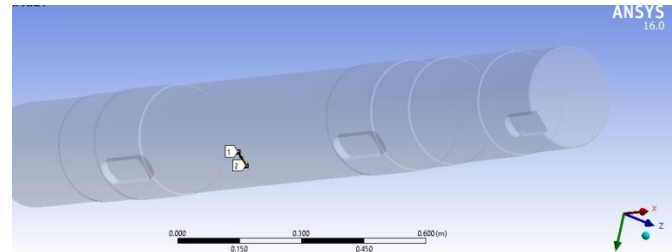


Fig. 8. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24 Fracture Analysis-SIFS K2

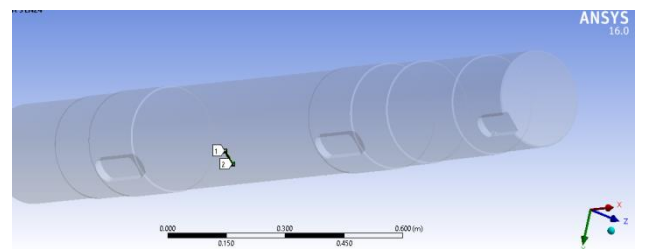


Fig. 9. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24 Fracture Analysis-SIFS K3

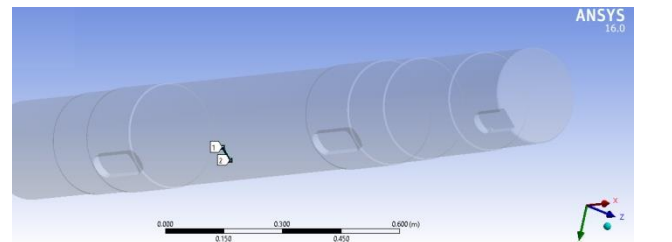


Fig. 10. Modified Shaft Design 3 with Materials EN24 Fracture Analysis-J Integral

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The static structural analysis and fracture analysis results are tabulated for all 9-Cases in last section, from where, Following are our conclusions:-

1. From the static structural analysis results its shows lowest directional deformation value resulted for Case9
2. From the static structural analysis results its shows lowest total deformation value resulted for Case 9.
3. From the fracture analysis results for value of SIFS K1 its shows lowest K1 value resulted for Case 9.

4. From the fracture analysis results for value of SIFS K2 its shows lowest K2value resulted for Case 9.
  5. From the fracture analysis results for value of SIFS K3 its shows lowest K3value resulted for Case 9.
  6. From the fracture analysis results for value of J-Integral its shows lowest J-Integral value resulted for Case 9.
- From above it's concluded that the Case 9 (Design 3 with material EN 24) is optimized design for both static structural analysis & Fracture Analysis.

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## AUTHORS PROFILE



### Prof. (Dr.) Manish Bhargava

B.E., M.Tech (Honors), Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Institute of Technology, Agartala, India. Publication:-international refereed Journal- Approx.25 number already published, National Refereed Journal- Approx. 2 number already published. Approx. 36 numbers national & international conferences attended. 3 numbers books have already published. Patent registered- 1 number. Institutional membership- The institution of Engineers (India)-Fellow Membership & co-chairman CEGR, New Delhi, Rajasthan Chapter. Approx. 27 Courses/Seminar have already been conducted. 4 numbers Consultancy projects already executed. Accredited Faculty member by International Accreditation organization (IAO)- Texas (USA). Rajasthan resource person for IIT Bombay (Spoken Tutorial Project Training) in institutes. Awarded by "Shiksha Gaurav Puraskar-2015" by C.E.G.R., New Delhi.



### Khagendra Pathak

B.Tech-Mechanical Engineering from SCRIE&T under CCS University campus Meerut.  
Pursuing M.Tech- Machine Design , Department of Mechanical Engineering, Maharishi Arvind Institute of Engineering And Technology Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. Publication:- 1 number international research Paper subjected " Role of CAD/CAM in Designing, Developing and Manufacturing of new Products" has already been published in International Journal of Research in Engineering and Technology, Volume: 03, issue: 06, June 2014. Additionally, good knowledge of Belt Conveyors-Designing as per internationally accepted codes, Long distance Belt Conveyor design as per "CEMA"-Conveyor Equipment & manufacturing Association. Good knowledge & interest in Bulk Material equipment such as Stackers, reclaimers, feeders etc. His Area of research included CAD/CAM, CADNX, FEA, Belt Conveyors.



### Ankur

B.Tech, M.Tech, Currently working as Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Maharishi Arvind Institute of Engineering And Technology Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. Publication:-international refereed Journal-Approx.4 number have already been published, which included international research Paper subjected "Fracture Examination of a Tube-well water pump Deep groove ball bearing for life improvement using finite element analysis" has already published in international Journal of current engineering & Technology, Vol-7, No-1, Feb-2017, Pages 228-232. Attended National Conferences and presented paper on "An Integrated Approach of TPM and JIT in Manufacturing Environment", National Conferences on Manufacturing & Logistics Management, March 08-09, 2013, MNIT Jaipur. His area of research CAD, Pro-E, FEA, Bearing.