PROBLEM

The plant’s coal-handling system starts with a reclaim conveyor under the stockpile and makes its way to the coal gallery, where there are twelve conveyors that distribute the coal to six different bunkers that feed the plant’s three coal-fired boilers.

The plant suffered general dust, spillage and carryback problems throughout the coal conveying system.

SOLUTION

Martin® QC2™ Cleaner and MartinPLUS® Process Improvement Services

Martin Engineering personnel conducted a site survey. As a result of this survey, PG&E Corporation made a commitment to upgrade the entire coal handling facility with Martin® transfer point products and Martin® QC2™ Cleaners.

RESULTS

To date, three transfer points in the coal gallery have been rebuilt, using proper belt support, wear liners and improved skirtboard seals. In addition, the chutework on two conveyors has been redesigned.

A standardized belt cleaning system has been installed on fourteen conveyors. To provide very consistent tensioning and minimize the amount of maintenance that the cleaners require, all belt cleaners have been installed with air tensioners, connected to the plant air system. A specially designed air bag tensioner for the Martin® QC2™ Cleaner was developed for this plant.

Material spillage—particularly at the tail end of the conveyors—has been greatly reduced. The belt cleaning systems are doing a very good job. Plant management is satisfied with the projects.

Martin® QC2™ Cleaner is protected by U.S. Patent No. 6,321,901.