

## **V-BELT DRIVE FAILURE ANALYSIS**

ACCURATELY IDENTIFY AND TROUBLESHOOT V-BELT DRIVE PROBLEMS AND FAILURES.





**11. UNDERCORD CRACKING** 



**12.** TURNS OVER OR COMES OFF DRIVE



**13. UNDERCORD SIDEWALL** BURN OR HARDENING



**14. WEAR ON THE BOTTOM CORNER** 



**15.** UNUSUAL NOISE



**16.** TOP OF TIE BAND DAMAGED



**17. TIE BAND SEPARATION** 



**18.** BROKEN BELT



Worn pulleys will decrease the life of belts and drive components over time. Some signs of worn pulley grooves are obvious with groove sidewall cupping. Another sign that pulley grooves are wearing is a polished appearance with grooves or ridges on the pulley groove sidewalls. Worn or damaged pulleys should be replaced immediately.



BELT & PULLEY GAUGES

Gates offers pulley gauges that aid in determining the correct belt or pulley cross section. Pulley gauges are also used to indicate excessive pulley groove wear.

Product No. 7401-0015

SYMPTOM	PROBABLE CAUSE	CORRECTIVE ACTION	SYMPTOM	PROBABLE CAUSE	CORRECTIVE ACTION
<b>1. CRACKING</b>	<ol> <li>Pulleys too small for belt section</li> <li>Belt slip</li> <li>Backside idler diameter too small</li> <li>Improper belt storage</li> <li>Excessive hot or cold temperature</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use larger diameter pulleys</li> <li>Retension to manufacturer's recommendations</li> <li>Increase backside idler to acceptable diameter</li> <li>Don't coil belt too tightly, kink or bend. Avoid heat and direct sunlight</li> <li>Control drive environment</li> </ol>	<b>11. UNDERCORD</b> CRACKING	<ol> <li>pulleys too small for belt section</li> <li>Belt slip</li> <li>Backside idler diameter too small</li> <li>Excessive hot or cold temperature</li> <li>Improper belt storage</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use larger diameter pulleys</li> <li>Retension to manufacturer's recommendations</li> <li>Increase backside idler to acceptable diameter</li> <li>Control drive environment</li> <li>Don't coil drive belt too tightly, kink or bend; avoid heat and direct sunlight</li> </ol>
2. WEAR ON SIDEWALLS	<ol> <li>Belt slip</li> <li>pulley misalignment</li> <li>Worn pulleys</li> <li>Incorrect belt</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Retension to manufacturer's recommendations</li> <li>Realign drive</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> <li>Replace with correct belt size</li> </ol>	<b>12. TURNS OVER OR COMES OFF DRIVE</b>	<ol> <li>Shock loading or vibration</li> <li>Foreign material in grooves</li> <li>pulley misalignment</li> <li>Worn pulley grooves</li> <li>Sub-minimal diameter pulley</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Check drive design; use PowerBand<sup>™</sup> (joined) belts</li> <li>Shield grooves and drive</li> <li>Realign drive</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> <li>Beplace pulley with correct diameter</li> </ol>
3. EDGE CORD FAILURE	<ol> <li>pulley misalignment</li> <li>Damaged tensile member</li> <li>Worn or incorrect pulleys</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Check alignment and correct</li> <li>Follow correct installation procedure</li> <li>Replace pulleys for correct belt/pulley match</li> </ol>	<b>13. UNDERCORD SIDEWALL BURNING OR HARDENING</b>	<ol> <li>Belt slip</li> <li>Worn pulleys</li> <li>Under-designed drive</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Retension to manufacturer's recommendations</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> <li>Redesign to manufacturer's</li> </ol>
4. WEAR ON TOP CORNER	<ol> <li>Belt rubbing against guard or drive structure</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>2. Remove obstruction</li> </ol>		4. Shaft movement	recommendations 4. Check for center distance changes
5. SURFACE FLAKING, STICKY OR	1. Oil or chemical contamination	<ol> <li>Do NOT use belt dressing; eliminate sources of oil, grease or chemical contamination</li> </ol>	<b>14. WEAR ON BOTTOM CORNER</b>	<ol> <li>Belt-to-pulley fit incorrect</li> <li>Worn pulleys</li> <li>Incorrect holt for pulleys</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use correct belt/pulley match</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> </ol>
6. WEAR ON TOP SURFACE	<ol> <li>Belt rubbing against guard</li> <li>Damaged idler</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Repair or replace guard</li> <li>Repair or replace idler</li> </ol>	LOUD DRIVE	<ol> <li>Incorrect bent for pulleys</li> <li>Incorrect tension</li> <li>Worn pulleys</li> <li>Debris in pulleys</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Check belt tension and adjust</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> <li>Clean pulleys; improve shielding; remove</li> </ol>
7. SURFACE HARD OR STIFF	<ol> <li>Hot drive environment</li> <li>Belt slip</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Improve ventilation to drive</li> <li>Retension to manufacturer's</li> </ol>		5. pulley misalignment	rust, paint, or remove dirt from grooves 5. Realign drive
8. UNUSUAL VIBRATION	<ol> <li>Incorrect belt</li> <li>Poor equipment structural design</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use correct belt/pulley match</li> <li>Check structure for adequate</li> </ol>	<b>16. TOP OF TIE BAND DAMAGED</b>	<ol> <li>Interface with guard</li> <li>Backside idler malfunction</li> <li>Debris in pulleys</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Check and adjust guard</li> <li>Replace or repair backside idler</li> <li>Clean pulleys</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>Excessive pulley eccentricity</li> <li>Loose drive components</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>strength and rigidity</li> <li>3. Replace defective pulley</li> <li>4. Check machine components, guards, motor, mounts, motor pads, bushings, brackets and framework for adequate</li> </ul>	<b>17. THE BAND SEPARATION</b>	<ol> <li>Improper groove spacing</li> <li>Worn or incorrect pulleys</li> <li>pulleys misalignment</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use pulleys manufactured to industry specifications</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> <li>Realign drive</li> </ol>
9. HIGH BELT TEMPERATURE	<ol> <li>Hot drive environment</li> <li>Slipping</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Improve ventilation to drive</li> <li>Retension until slipping stops</li> </ol>	<b>18. BROKEN BELT</b>	<ol> <li>Under-designed drive</li> <li>Belt rolled or pried onto pulley</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Redesign to manufacturer's recommendations</li> <li>Use drive center distance adjustment with installing</li> </ol>
<b>10. WEAR ON BOTTOM SURFACE</b>	<ol> <li>Belt bottoming against pulley groove bottom</li> <li>Worn pulleys</li> <li>Debris in pulleys</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use correct belt/pulley match</li> <li>Replace pulleys</li> <li>Clean pulleys</li> </ol>		<ol> <li>Object falling onto drive</li> <li>Severe shock load</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Provide adequate guard or drive protection</li> <li>Redesign to accommodate shock load</li> </ol>

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