

## SYNCHRONOUS BELTS

#### **Preventative Maintenance**

SYMPTOMS	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
Unusual noise	<ol> <li>Misaligned drive</li> <li>Too low or high tension</li> <li>Back idler</li> <li>Worn pulley</li> <li>Bent guide flange</li> <li>Belt speed too high</li> <li>Incorrect belt profile for pulley (i.e. HTD®, GT, etc)</li> <li>Subminimal diameter</li> <li>Excess load</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Adjust to recommended value.</li> <li>Use inside idler.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Replace guide flange.</li> <li>Redesign drive.</li> <li>Use proper belt/pulley combination.</li> <li>Redesign drive using larger diameters.</li> <li>Redesign drive for increased capacity.</li> </ol>
Tension loss	<ol> <li>Weak support structure</li> <li>Excessive pulley wear</li> <li>Fixed (non-adjustable) centres</li> <li>Excessive debris</li> <li>Excessive load</li> <li>Subminimal diameter</li> <li>Belt, pulley or shafts running too hot</li> <li>Unusual belt degradation</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Reinforce structure.</li> <li>Use other pulley material.</li> <li>Use inside idler for belt adjustment.</li> <li>Remove debris, check guard.</li> <li>Redesign drive for increased capacity.</li> <li>Redesign drive using larger diameters.</li> <li>Check for conductive heat transfer from prime mover.</li> <li>Reduce ambient drive temperature to +85°C (185°F) maximum.</li> </ol>
Tooth shear	<ol> <li>Excessive shock loads</li> <li>Less than 6 teeth in mesh</li> <li>Extreme pulley run-out</li> <li>Worn pulley</li> <li>Back idler</li> <li>Incorrect belt profile for pulley         <ul> <li>(i.e. HTD®, GT, etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Misaligned drive</li> <li>Belt undertensioned</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Redesign drive for increased capacity.</li> <li>Redesign drive.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Use inside idler.</li> <li>Use proper belt/pulley combination.</li> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Adjust tension to recommended value.</li> </ol>



# SYNCHRONOUS BELTS

**PROBLEMS WITH SYNCHRONOUS BELTS** 

### **Preventative Maintenance**

SYMPTOMS	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
Excessive belt edge wear	<ol> <li>Damage due to handling</li> <li>Flange damage</li> <li>Belt too wide</li> <li>Belt tension too low</li> <li>Rough flange surface finish</li> <li>Improper tracking</li> <li>Belt hitting drive guard or bracketry</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Follow proper handling instructions.</li> <li>Repair flange or replace pulley.</li> <li>Use proper width pulley.</li> <li>Adjust tension to recommended value.</li> <li>Replace or repair flange (to eliminate abrasive surface).</li> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Remove obstruction or use inside idler.</li> </ol>
Tensile break	<ol> <li>Excessive shock load</li> <li>Subminimal diameter</li> <li>Improper belt handling and storage prior to installation</li> <li>Debris or foreign object in drive</li> <li>Extreme pulley run-out</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Redesign drive for increased capacity.</li> <li>Redesign drive using larger diameters.</li> <li>Follow proper handling and storage procedures.</li> <li>Remove object and check guard.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> </ol>
Belt cracking	<ol> <li>Subminimal diameter</li> <li>Back idler</li> <li>Extreme low temperature at start-up</li> <li>Extended exposure to harsh chemicals</li> <li>Cocked bushing/pulley assembly</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Redesign drive using larger diameter.</li> <li>Use inside idler or increase diameter of back idler.</li> <li>Pre-heat drive environment.</li> <li>Protect drive.</li> <li>Install bushing as per instructions.</li> </ol>
Premature tooth wear	<ol> <li>Too low or too high belt tension</li> <li>Belt running partly off unflanged pulley</li> <li>Misaligned drive</li> <li>Incorrect belt profile for pulley (i.e. HTD®, GT, etc)</li> <li>Worn pulley</li> <li>Rough pulley teeth</li> <li>Damaged pulley</li> <li>Pulley not to dimensional specification</li> <li>Belt hitting drive bracketry or other structure</li> <li>Excessive load</li> <li>Insufficient hardness of pulley material</li> <li>Excessive debris</li> <li>Cocked bushing/pulley assembly</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Adjust to recommended value.</li> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Use proper belt/pulley combination.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Replace pulley.</li> <li>Remove obstruction or use idler.</li> <li>Redesign drive for increased capacity.</li> <li>Use a more wear-resistant pulley.</li> <li>Remove debris, check guard.</li> <li>Install bushings as per instructions.</li> </ol>



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	SYMPTOMS	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
PULLEY PROBLEMS	Flange failure	1. Belt forcing flange off	Correct alignment or properly secure flange to pulley.
	Unusual pulley wear	<ol> <li>Pulley has too little wear resistance (e.g. plastic, soft metals, aluminium)</li> <li>Misaligned drive</li> <li>Excessive debris</li> <li>Excessive load</li> <li>Too low or too high belt tension</li> <li>Incorrect belt profile for pulley (i.e. HTD®, GT, etc)</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use alternative pulley material.</li> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Remove debris, check guard.</li> <li>Redesign drive for increased capacity.</li> <li>Adjust tension to recommended value.</li> <li>Use proper belt/pulley combination.</li> </ol>
PERFORMANCE PROBLEMS	Belt tracking problems	<ol> <li>Belt running partly off unflanged pulley</li> <li>Centres exceed 8 times small pulley diameter and both pulleys are flanged</li> <li>Excessive belt edge wear</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Correct parallel alignment to set belt to track on both pulleys.</li> <li>Correct alignment.</li> </ol>
	Excessive temperature: belt, bearings, housings or shafts, etc.	<ol> <li>Misaligned drive</li> <li>Too low or too high belt tension</li> <li>Incorrect belt profile for pulley         <ul> <li>(i.e. HTD®, GT, etc)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Correct alignment.</li> <li>Adjust tension to recommended value.</li> <li>Use proper belt/pulley combination.</li> </ol>
	Shafts out of synchronisation	Design error     Incorrect belt	<ol> <li>Use correct pulley sizes.</li> <li>Use correct belt with correct tooth profile for grooves.</li> </ol>
	Vibration	<ol> <li>Incorrect belt profile for pulley combination (i.e. HTD®, GT, etc)</li> <li>Too low or too high belt tension</li> <li>Bushing or key loose</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Use proper belt/pulley.</li> <li>Adjust tension to recommended value.</li> <li>Check and reinstall as per instructions.</li> </ol>
	Incorrect driveN speeds	1. Design error	1. Redesign drive.