

Airco Speer Solves Two Problems With One Bin Activator

Customer

Airco Speer Carbon/Graphite Company,
St. Marys, Pa.

Problem

Airco Speer mills graphite having a bulk density of 50 lbs./cu.ft. into a —325 mesh powder. This powder goes into a mix and is then remilled into a carbon product.

The graphite was formerly stored in bins with large openings and aerated to move it from the bins to a rotary valve feeder. The product by nature is difficult to regulate because of its tendency to fluidize. Aeration only added to the problem causing uncontrolled flushing. It also created a dust problem.

Vibra Screw Equipment

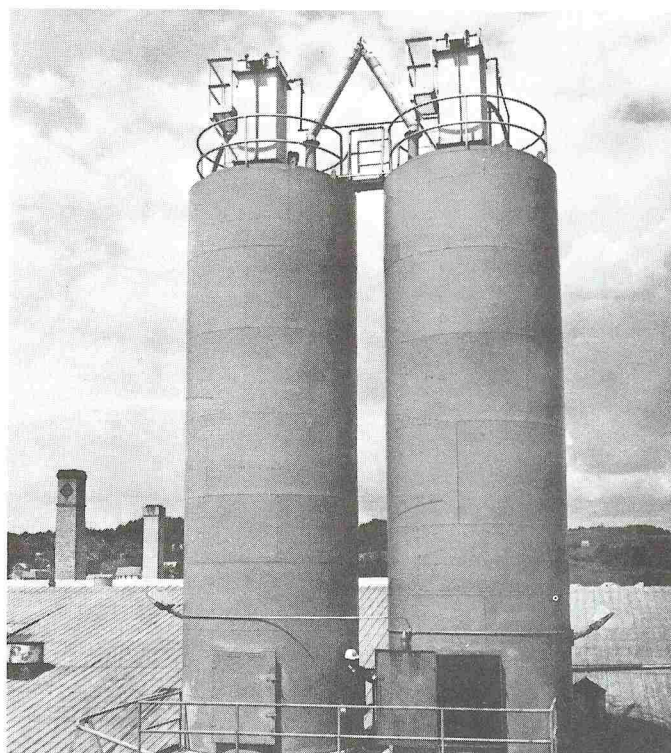
A 6-ft. diameter Bin Activator, carbon steel construction.

Solution

The company installed a Vibra Screw Bin Activator to accomplish two important objectives: 1) the Bin Activator provides a totally enclosed system which solved the dust problem, and 2) it makes possible greatly improved flow of the powdered graphite without fluidization. Controlled vibration of the Bin Activator conditions the graphite to uniform bulk density, eliminating entrained air while keeping it mobile and free flowing. The graphite can then be metered and mixed without problem.

Results

Airco Speer Carbon/Graphite has had no problems since installation of the Bin Activator several years ago. The unit has been in operation ever since, and it has been performing to the complete satisfaction of the company for the entire time.



Storage bin on the right at Airco Speer contains powdered graphite which is difficult to regulate because of its tendency to fluidize.



A 6-ft. diameter Bin Activator provides a totally enclosed system which ends fluidization and dust problem.