**PRESS RELEASE**

Melco conveys its advanced local manufacturing capabilities to the world

*Melco Conveyor Equipment continues to capitalise on its reputation of being a world-leader in the manufacture and supply of equipment specifically-designed for global bulk materials handling industries.*

**14 February, 2012:** Internationally-recognised conveyor equipment manufacturer, Melco has been providing industrial operations with competitively-priced, high-quality products from its Johannesburg-based manufacturing facility for more than 40 years.

Founded in 1970 with the aim of supplying world-class equipment to the South African mining industry, Melco is today one of the largest suppliers of idlers and rollers in Africa.

Melco managing director **Gavin Hall** points out that the company’s commitment to product and service excellence has resulted in Melco expanding the reach of its product range into more than 75 countries worldwide. “Melco specialises in the design, manufacture and supply of conveyor idlers, rollers, motorised pulleys and supporting structures. The company has set the highest standards in manufacturing, which has resulted in Melco being recognised as one of the largest and most highly-respected manufacturers in the world today.”

Melco products are designed for use in applications which range from mining and quarrying, to power generation and sugar milling. The company boasts a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility and a workforce of more than 400 employees, which ensures that the company has the capacity and ability to meet the most demanding customer deliveries.

Melco has been a proud member of the Rulmeca Group of Companies since 2006. “Almost all of Rulmeca and Melco’s activity involves the design, manufacture and sale of idlers, rollers and motorised pulleys for bulk materials handling applications,” notes Hall. “As a group, we have chosen to specifically focus on this core business, to ensure that we remain experts and leaders internationally, without being distracted by non-core activities.”

Melco has benefitted considerably from the support provided by Rulmeca, with regards to the latest European manufacturing techniques, automated plant technology and participation in the Group’s research and development initiatives, which has ultimately resulted in increased output and improved quality.

Melco is an ISO 9001:2008 approved company that operates a highly-specialised testing facility, where products are tested under laboratory-controlled environments prior to field-testing, full-scale manufacture and supply. This process ensures that Melco products are among the most advanced in the world. Melco also operates quality management systems which control every aspect of the company. These systems are audited regularly to ensure compliance with the highest standards.

As part of its value-added service and commitment to complete customer satisfaction, Melco sales and marketing director, **Craig Warmback** points out that the company has established the Melco School of Belt Conveying, which is dedicated to promoting the safe and efficient use of conveyor systems.

One of the cornerstones of Melco's success is its ability to design products in accordance with specific applications and duties. Using computer software developed in-house, Melco considers all the parameters within which a specific conveyor operates, to ensure the correct sizing of roll shaft and bearing, and that the appropriate sealing system and frame design are matched to the customer’s specific needs.

A team of experienced field personnel undertake inspections of each conveyor, before a comprehensive report is compiled and submitted together with the recommendations for improvement, in order to highlight potential problems and to increase availability, minimise downtime, and reduce the total cost of operation.

Melco has a good balance between domestic and export sales. By gaining experience in different parts of the world, and creating job opportunities through increased sales, Melco strives to ensure that it positively contributes to the general well being of the South African economy.

As a responsible corporate citizen, Melco is dedicated to ensuring that it plays its part in creating measurable and sustainable improvement to the surrounding community in which the company operates, by committing itself to numerous corporate social responsibility projects. “Melco places a high emphasis on engaging the local community, and by playing an active and positive role in this area, Melco makes a significant contribution towards improving the standard of living for a number of underprivileged families.”

Melco operations director **Malcolm Elston** is confident of the future outlook for Melco and the South African economy in 2012. “Melco recently invested in a high definition plasma cutter, press brake, seal and bearing assembly work station and automated impact rubber assembly press, in order to keep up with anticipated demand. With regards to electricity supply, Melco is also completely self-sufficient after recently installing two 630 kVA stand-by generators at our factory in Germiston. As the economy continues to show signs of improvement moving forward, we have planned a further investment in plant and equipment for 2012,” he concludes.

***Ends***

**Notes to the editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit [http://media.ngage.co.za](http://media.ngage.co.za/) and click the Melco link.

**About Melco**Melco is one of Africa’s major conveyor equipment manufacturers. Melco has been a proud member of the Rulmeca Group of Companies since 2006. Melco idlers have been successfully utilised in many bulk materials handling applications in over 75 countries throughout the world, and installed on belt widths from 200 mm to 3000 mm. The Melco roll product range is comprehensive, ranging from 89 mm to 215 mm in diameter, with bearing and shaft arrangements from 25 mm to 60 mm diameter.

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