

## **Novitool® Aero® Press Saves Time And Money In Tobacco Plant**

### **Industry**

Tobacco

### **Application**

Endlessing Belts in a Tobacco Plant

### **Product**

Novitool® Aero® Portable Splice Press

### **Objective**

- Reduce downtime for tobacco plant
- Save money by splicing belts with plant maintenance crew
- Reduce use of water in process

### **Conveyor Detail**

Two-ply Polyolefin belts ranging from 610mm (24") to 1067mm (42") throughout the plant



### **Problem:**

The tobacco plant had long been vulcanizing their belts using a water-cooled press. Average straight-finger punch splice time with the water-cooled press was approximately 45 minutes to an hour, not counting the time it took to haul the equipment to the belt and set it up. The primary maintenance engineer was troubled by two operational issues that he was responsible for: First, it was painful and costly to have the conveyor line shut down for hours on end as he waited for the splice to be installed. Second, he was troubled by the use of water in cooling because steam would often get into the tobacco, which is supposed to be a dry process.

### **Solution:**

After seeing the Novitool® Aero® Portable Splice Press demonstrated, the engineer recognized the benefits – shorter splice time, lighter equipment, and fewer components to set up. Above all, he was impressed that water did not have to be used in the process, which would keep the tobacco dry and ensure their product quality.

### **Result:**

The engineer at the tobacco plant realized that using the Aero Press would mean less downtime, less manpower to carry and set up the equipment, and less water usage and contamination with the tobacco. Combine that with the lightweight portability of the AERO Press and the fact that there are fewer components to bring from jobsite to jobsite, and it saves time and money. The engineer was extremely impressed by the quick work of the Aero Press, which finished the splices in only eight to nine minutes each – an 80% time savings. He was also surprised that, although the Aero Press is lightweight and portable, it provided a flat, consistent splice on the notoriously-difficult to splice polyolefin belts.

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240 Macpherson Road • #02-01 • Singapore 348574  
Tel: +65-6484-1533 • Fax: +65-6484-1531 • E-mail: [asiasales@flexco.com](mailto:asiasales@flexco.com)

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