

# GLOBAL LEADERS IN MATERIAL HANDLING

Chainflow™ Heavy Duty
Tubular Chain Drag Conveyors
For Dry Bulk Solids

# **Chainflow Chain Drag Conveyors**

# What do they convey?

Spiroflow's Chainflow tubular chain drag conveyor is the newest mechanical conveying option in our extensive line of mechanical conveyors designed for the dry bulk solids and powder processing industry.

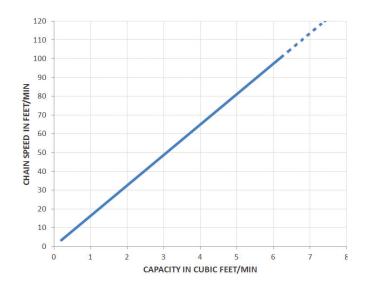
The hygienic, heavy duty, totally enclosed, dust-free Chainflow tubular chain drag conveyor economically conveys dry, hot (up to 180°F/82°C) or cold, powders and granules, particularly fragile materials such as cereals, nuts, coffee beans, food ingredients, pet food, animal feed, and a wide variety of chemicals and plastics. Processors easily convey or batch ingredients with crevice free material contact surfaces with flexibility in layout options.

They successfully convey any number of non-cohesive dry powders and granules such as:

- Animal Feed\*
- Barlev
- Beans/Legumes
- Candy\*
- Cereals
- Coffee
- Cocoa
- Dried Fruits
- Flour\*
- Frozen Fruits\*
- Frozen Vegetables\*
- Grains
- Hops
- Nuts
- Oats
- Peas
- PepperPet Food\*
- Seeds
- Snack Foods\*
- Sodium Bicarbonate

- Soluble Corn Fiber
- Soup Mix\*
- Soy Beans
- Spices\*
- Tea
- Tobacco
- Wheat
- · Other Food Ingredients
- Chemicals\*
- Detergent
- Latex
- PFT
- Plastics
- Prills & Pellets
- Recycled Products\*
- Regrind
- Saw Dust
- Talcum Powder
- Urea
- Wax Flakes
- Wood Chips & Pellets
  - \* Application Dependent

## Capacities Subject to Application



## Chain & Discs

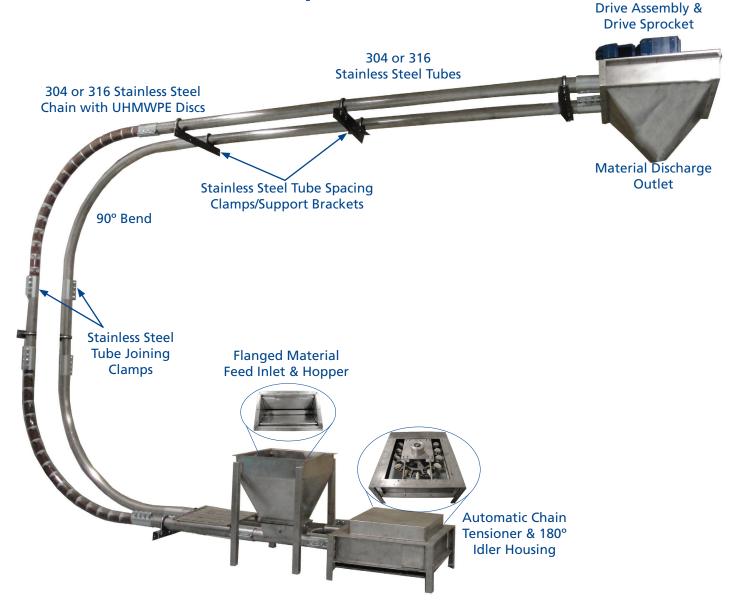
The 304 stainless steel chain is fitted with 4 inch (100mm) diameter molded food grade UHMWPE discs every 5 inches (125mm). Molding the discs directly onto the chain minimizes crevices where material can accumulate. The chain can be upgraded to 316 stainless steel.



## Features & Benefits

- Deliver heavy duty conveying of high loads 24/7/365 and enjoy maximum chain life with 304 or 316 stainless steel chain.
- Crevice free material contact surfaces
   Ideal for food grade applications as well as abrasive and/
   or higher density materials with homogeneous crevice free
   material contact surfaces of robust UHMWPE discs molded
   to stainless steel chain.
- Maximum layout versatility
   Achieve intricate layouts, endless flexibility and maximum versatility with multiple inlets and outlets (without air locks) in complex 3 plane circuits.
- Minimize material breakage and maintain consistent mixtures with gentle handling of your fragile materials for minimal waste and maximum customer satisfaction.
- Maintain dust and contamination free handling via our totally enclosed conveyor design.
- Maximize your chain, disc and tube life and minimize operator maintenance with built-in automatic chain tensioning.
- Keep your operation simple and operating costs low as no filters or cyclones are required to separate air and material.
- Lower your energy consumption
   Chainflow conveyors have minimum horsepower (kW) requirements.
- Maximize your ROI with minimal spare parts requirements.
- Minimize residual material accumulation with our round construction design.
- Enjoy operational flexibility to stop and start under load, and run empty with most materials.
- Flood or meter feed the conveyor based on your product flow characteristics.
- Maximize your use with a mobile design available for multiple in-plant applications or freight car and truck loading.
- Achieve fast, efficient conveying with capacities up to 370 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr (10.5m<sup>3</sup>/hr).
- Convey over long distances with maximum straight line lengths of up to 250 ft (76m) per conveyor and link multiple conveyors for longer distances.

# **Chainflow Components**



# **Additional Components & Options**

**90° Idler Housing** is an alternative to a 90° bend. It allows for tighter radii and quick access to the corner and/or discharge housing and sprocket.

Pneumatic Inlet Baffle aids in the control of material into the conveyor.

### **Inlet Options**

Multiple inlets can be fitted with manual or pneumatic baffles, inlet chute lids, electric or pneumatic vibration, hoppers, agitators, lump breakers, extended capacity chutes, and dust hoods. As always, custom designs are also available.

Multiple Inlets & Outlets are available for this conveyor for maximum flexibility.

Wash Gate & Drain is available for cleaning.

**Chain Vibrator** is a reciprocating hammer used to shake material from the chain and prevent product carry over at each outlet on the system including in-line valves.

### **Static Grounding**

Conductive equipment is interconnected to prevent sparking.

**Sight Glass** allows an operator to observe the chain, discs, and material as it moves through the conveyor.

### Controls

Standard controls are available with or without a VFD. They include a NEMA 4 (IP66) carbon steel enclosure with a lockable disconnect, emergency stop, power on & run lights, micro PLC controls for all functions, AUTO mode, and HAND mode. Custom controls are always available.

# Mechanical Conveying Solutions Superior Design, Outstanding Performance

Spiroflow is a global leader in dry bulk solids and powder processing and an emerging leader in the control system integration industry. Throughout our 45 year history, our equipment design and process automation engineers have provided our customers with the safest, most efficient and most reliable process solutions available.

Yes, we were an early inventor of the flexible screw conveyor, but our products and services have grown significantly since those early days. Spiroflow delivers engineered solutions designed to solve your greatest processing challenges, whether it is a single conveyor, a complete bulk solid and powder processing system or a fully customized solution.

With our flexible screw, Aeroflow® aero mechanical, Cableflow® cable drag, Chainflow™ or Dynaflow® chain drag conveyors, hands down, we offer the widest range of mechanical conveyors for dry bulk solids and powder processing in the industry. Our engineers will evaluate your needs so you get the right, the best, the most appropriate conveyor for your application.

We are also well known for our expansive line of Spirofil® bulk bag fillers, bulk bag dischargers, control systems, bulk bag conditioners, hoppers, bin activators, box dumping stations, and bin, bag, and drum emptiers as well as end-of-line robotic palletizing solutions.

## **Manufacturing & Material Testing**

Spiroflow has two manufacturing facilities located in the United States and the United Kingdom enabling us to build your conveying solution efficiently and to our highest quality standards. Both also have fully equipped material test labs and our UK office's new technology center houses an equipment show room and our powder characterization lab.

Our test lab managers maintain an extensive test database going back over 45 years which allows them to retrieve helpful information about thousands of materials. No matter where your plant is located, we can readily test material flow characteristics of your precise material under actual operating conditions. Attend a live product test in one of our test labs or choose to view video of your material test. The choice is yours.

## **Beyond Process Equipment**

In 2014 Spiroflow Automation Solutions was launched in North America as part of our planned expansion into control systems integration. Along with our acquisition of the well respected US based Food Control Solutions our automation team is firmly positioned for continued growth and success.





Flexible Screw Conveyors

Aeroflow® Aero Mechanical Conveyors



Dynaflow® Chain Drag Conveyors

**Cableflow® Cable Drag Conveyors** 

Our cumulative expertise in process equipment, robotic automation (in North America) and control systems integration sets Spiroflow apart from other suppliers and gives you a powerful competitive advantage. Our highly trained, educated and disciplined team members have the solid industry knowhow to deliver the safest, most reliable, and efficient solutions you demand.

### Spiroflow Systems, Inc.

1609 Airport Road Monroe, NC 28110 USA 704-246-0900 info@spiroflow.com www.spiroflowsystems.com

### **Spiroflow Limited**

Lincoln Way, Clitheroe Lancashire BB7 1QG UK +44 (0) 1200 422525 sales@spiroflow.com www.spiroflow.com



# Tubular Drag Conveyors

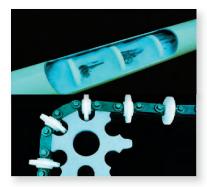
## What are they?

Tubular Drag Conveyors (TDCs) are mechanically driven conveyors that 'drag' material along the inside of a tube. They are designed to transfer finely and not so finely divided, flowable bulk materials from in-feed points to discharge points through a totally enclosed conduit. TDCs are positive displacement devices using close-running discs connected by a cable or metal links. They have been used successfully throughout a range of industries for over fifty years.

## How do they work?

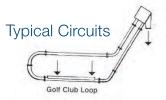
A cable or chain with discs spaced along its length and its ends connected to each other to form an endless loop is pulled by a motor driven sprocket within an enclosed tube. Changes in

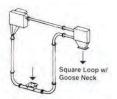
direction are facilitated by bends in the tubing or by corner housings for tighter radii. Discharge of the product is through 'outlet boxes'. Cable or chain and casing are routed back to the in-feed point in an endless loop.

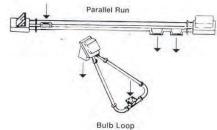


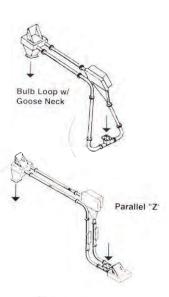
### Installation

By nature, the tubular conveyor absorbs all the reactions to its own conveying forces internally. The forces are transferred by compression of the flanged casing sections in the Dynaflow Chain Drag Conveyor and by compression couplings in the Cableflow Cable Drag Conveyor. As a result, the only external supports required are those necessary to support the weight of the conveyor and load of product being conveyed. If desired, Spiroflow engineers can recommend support locations. Installation supervision is also available on a fee basis.









## Materials of Construction

Generally, the construction materials of a tubular conveyor are determined by the product to be handled. Materials that are corrosive or contaminable would normally dictate stainless steel construction on metallic material contact surfaces. In applications where there is no concern over corrosion or contamination, carbon steel construction is a far more economical alternative. The most common materials of construction, in order of increasing costs, are carbon steel, #304 stainless steel and #316 stainless steel. External components not in contact with the product would be carbon steel unless specifically requested as some other materials. Construction from other materials quoted upon request.



- Totally enclosed, dust-free, contamination-free handling
- Only mechanical conveyor that can operate in 3 planes, this permits complex circuits eliminating transfer points and using only a single drive
- Minimum horsepower and energy consumption
- Can be Meter or Flood Fed
- Handles hot, cold, wet, dry, hygroscopic or temperature sensitive materials
- May be fed at multiple points in a circuit

- Minimum noise level
- May discharge at multiple points in circuit (no air locks)
- No need for filters or cyclone to separate air and material as discharge gravity takes care of this for FREE
- Gentle conveying action minimized product degradation
- Will not separate blends
- Round construction minimizes residual accumulation and build up.
- May operate under pressure differential or inert purge

# Chains, Cables and Flights for every application

At the heart of every tubular conveyor is the conveyor cable and disc or chain and disc assembly which is the single most critical component in the system. Spiroflow offers a wide range of construction materials and assemblies to meet the demands of the various products to be conveyed.

Selection of the cable and disc or chain and disc assembly to be used on any particular application is based on a number of factors: The total developed length of the conveyor circuit, number of casing bends, material loading, the total mechanical load (chain pull), the number of planes through which the cable or chain must pass and the characteristics of the product being conveyed. Spiroflow offers two types of cables and several chain options to insure proper operation across a wide range of applications.

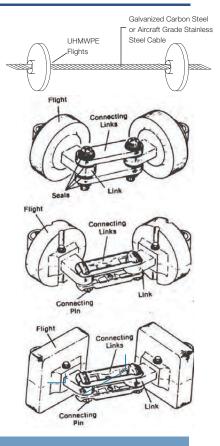
**Cable and Discs:** Our cable and disc assemblies are a development of those used in our tried and tested range of Aero-Mechanical conveyors. The cables are sized to be strong enough for the load imposed upon the discs. The discs are moulded onto metal ferules that are rigidly crimped along the length of the cable. Cables can be of carbon or stainless steel according to the application.

**Sealed Pin Chain:** Elastomer washers are compressed around the pins and between the links to seal abrasive and corrosive materials from the pin bearing surfaces, thereby extending chain life. Seals are most commonly made of neoprene, EPDM or polyurethane. Other seal materials are available upon request.

**Forged Steel Chain:** This chain style utilizes commercially available #348, #458 and #678 drop forged rivetless chain with open pin construction. Chain of this design is extremely durable and less costly than the sealed pin variety.

**Chains for Square Tubes:** From time to time, the demands of a particular application will call for a tubular conveyor with a square or rectangular cross-section. Spiroflow offers a range of chain assemblies that effectively meet these requirements.

**Works in Multiple Planes:** Chains are designed to rotate out of plane up to 90° over a given distance. This means that "universal joints," with their inherent drawbacks and added expense, are not required. Our chains are constructed in such a way that elements or sections can be replaced when necessary. And, of course, our cable and disc assemblies will readily flex any which way! Their construction also enables sections to be replaced as required.



## Flight Selection

Conveyor flight selection is another critical point. The proper flight material must be chosen to withstand possible chemical attack, abrasion, temperature, etc. Spiroflow offers an effective range of standard flights, meeting the needs of virtually all applications, as follows:

**Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (UHMWPE):** Generally the most popular and best all around flight material, due to its extremely high abrasion resistance, very low coefficient of friction, high impact strength and resulting long service. The material is available in an FDA approved grade; it is chemically inert and water absorption is essentially nil. Service temperature is up to 80°C (176°F).

Cast Iron: The second most popular flight material due to its low cost and reasonable service life. In many applications, corrosion, abrasion.

chemical resistance and product contamination are not a factor. In these instances cast iron may be a prudent choice of materials. In some applications, mild steel may be substituted to provide Ithe same type of service. Cast iron and mild steel flights have a service range up to 250°C (480°F).

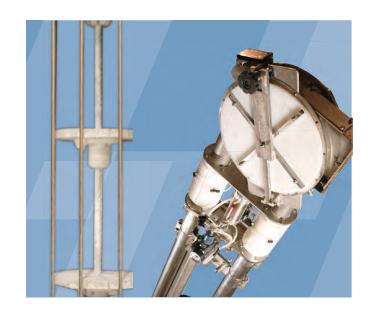
**Other Materials**: While nylon and polyurethane flights do not offer all the beneficial properties of UHMWPE there is a range of applications where these materials are best suited.

**Specials**: Conveyor flights can be molded, machined, fabricated or flame cut from a wide range of materials as required by a specific application. A Spiroflow engineer would be happy to discuss your needs and help select the flight material best suited.

# 'Cableflow' Tubular Cable Drag Conveyors

'Cableflow' Tubular Cable Drag Conveyors are in fact a development of our tried and tested Aero-Mechanical Conveyors operating with reduced clearances and at reduced running speeds. 'Cableflow' conveyors are designed for gentle material handling and for installations requiring conveying in multiple planes. They provide complete material batch transfer of bulk products from single or multiple in-feed points to single or multiple discharge points with little or no damage.

Because they are derived from our Aero-Mechanical Conveyors, they enjoy the option to have our patented DART (Dynamic Automatic Rope Tensioner) rope tensioning system for maximum rope life and minimum maintenance. This is a key advantage over competitor's cable driven conveyors.



Cable discs are manufactured from Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene and are suitable for duties up to 80°C (176°F).

## What can they convey?

- Acordis Cellulosic Fiber
- Almonds
- Aluminum Oxide
- Atrazine
- Barium Metaborate Monohydrate
- Burned Oats
- Carbon Black
- Coffee Beans / Ground & Whole
- Corn Starch
- Cotton Seed Coated with Starch
- Cuprous Chloride
- Detergent, powder
- Diatomaceous Earth
- Dried Feed Grade Egg Product
- Flour
- Ground Paper Product
- Lime
- Lime Kiln Dust
- Limestone Pellets
- Lysine Chunks
- Monosodium Glutamate
- Mustard Seed
- Natural Organic Fertilizer

- Oats
- Paper Sludge
- Paraffir
- Peanut Splits
- Powder/Shavings/Slivers
- Polyester Fiber
- PVC Pelletized Mix
- Rubber
- Silica Sand
- Rice
- Rubber (includes Fluff)
- Tungsten Powder
- Tea
- Urea
- Vegetable Scraps
- Virgin PVC
- Walnuts
- Waste Cotton
- Waxed Prills
- Wheat Mids
- Wood Chips
- Zinc Oxide
- Zinc Stearate

\*Please call for product specific information and to arrange product testing





# 'Dynaflow' Tubular Chain Drag Conveyors

The 'Dynaflow' Tubular Chain Drag Conveyor is also a mechanical tubular drag conveyor operating within the confines of a pipe. In this conveyor, the discs that move material along the pipe are connected by articulated metal links (chains) meaning that they are well suited to the most arduous of applications. The discs can be made from a variety of materials including steel and cast iron. This enables them to operate at temperatures up to 250°C (482°F).

## What can they convey?

- Activated Carbon

- Antimony Oxide
- Artificial Sweetener
- Aspirin Powder
- Asbestos
- Baghouse Dust
- Baking Powder
- Black Oxide
- Benzoic Acid
- Bentonite Clay
- Bisphenol
- Bone Meal
- Calcium Carbonate
- Carbon Black
- Carbon Chips
- Caustic Soda
- Cement Powder
- Cereal Fines

- Coffee Beans
- Coffee Chaff
- Copper Chromate
- Copper Sulfate
- Corn Meal
- Crushed Pineapple
- Diatomaceous Earth
- Digested Wood Knots
- Epsom Salts
- Ferrous Sulfate
- Fertilizer Powder
- Filter Cake Flock
- Fumaric Acid

- Green Salts
- Ground Coffee
- Herbicide

- Instant Coffee
- Irganox
- Iron Oxide
- Iron Sulfate
- Kaolin Clay
- Lead Oxide
- Lime
- Magnesium Chips
- Magnetic Oxide
- Manganese Oxide
- Mercuric Oxide
- Metal Chips
- Metallurical Coke
- Mill Scale
- Molvbdenum
- Monosodium p hosphate
   Starch
- Mustard
- Mylar Flake
- Paint Flake
- Paint Sludge
- Paper Pulp
- Paraformaldehyde Flake Titanium Dioxide
- Paunch Manure
- Pentaerythritol
- Pesticide
- Petroleum Coke
- •Phenolic Resin
- Phthalic Acid

- Phosphate Sludge
- Phosphorus Pentasulfide
- Phosphate Ore
- Plastisol Sludge
- Powdered Metal
- Powdered Sugar
- Powdered Grass Killer
- PVC Powder
- Raven Black
- Resin
- Rice Hulls
- Sewage Grit
- Sewage Sludge
- Shelled Peanuts
- Sodium bicarbonate
- Sodium Phosphate
- Sodium Disulphate
- Spent Hops
- Spices

- Sulfur
- Talc
- Tea
- Teraphthalic Acide

- Uranium Salts





<sup>\*</sup>Please call for product specific information and to arrange product testing

# Conveyor Selection

### Conveyor Size and Cable/Chain Speed

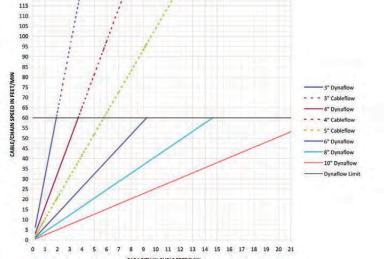
The capacity chart below will allow you to estimate the size of conveyor and the chain speed needed based on the throughput requirements in cubic feet per minute. The horizontal lines represent the velocity at which your product will pass through the conveyor. The vertical lines indicate the volumetric throughput rate in cubic feet per minute. The diagonal lines are the sizes of the conveyors available.

\*CABLEflow TDC's can operate up to 175 ft/min dependent on material characteristics

### How to Use the Capacity Chart

- 1. Based on your material's bulk density, calculate the required conveying rate in cubic feet per minute. Then locate the amount required in cubic ft / min. on the horizontal scale.
- 2. Move up the vertical line and note where it intersects with one or more diagonal lines. Each intersection point indicates a possible conveyor size.
- 3. From each intersection point, move left horizontally all the way to the vertical scale, indicating the conveyor cable/chain speed.

There are many factors that enter into the tubular conveyor selection process. Beyond the mechanical selection described above, consideration must be given to the physical characteristics of the material to be conveyed and the equipment duty cycle.



### **Tubular Conveyor Selection Guidelines**

- 1. The average operating speed range of a tubular conveyor is in the 5 to 55 ft/min cable/chain speed range.
- 2. It is generally advisable to apply a larger conveyor at a slower cable/chain speed if your material possess sluggish flow characteristics, is sticky abrasive or if the equipment operational duty cycle is extensive.
- 3. Smaller conveyor sizes and faster cable/chain speeds are usually selected when the material is free flowing and non-abrasive and/or the equipment duty cycle is low.
- 4. Future capacity requirements should be considered. It may be prudent to install a larger conveyor now, at a lower cable/chain speed, then increase the cable/chain speed later to accommodate a higher capacity. This can be done with the use of a variable frequency drive or gearing change.

- 5. Surges and uneven feed conditions should be considered. Surge hoppers may provide for more constan feeding and may allow use of a smaller conveyor.
- 6. Many forms of sludge do not flow well into or out of tubular conveyors. In applications involving sludge, it is generally advisable to oversize the conveyor by a factor of four or more and to never run the cable/chain at a speed above 20 ft/min. In all sludge applications, it is important to determine the characteristics of the sludge when it dries on the conveyor wall and cable or chain linkage. If it becomes too hard to be easily removed, another type of conveyor may be better suited.

Final equipment selection should be made by a Spiroflow engineer, who will consider the above as well as other factors and make a recommendation on a conveyor that will provide reliable service.

# The System Components

### **Drive Assemblies**

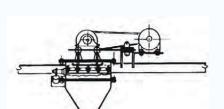
Conveyor drive assemblies are available for 90° or 180° locations. They are always located at a high point in the conveyor circuit, after product discharge or can be used as a discharge point. Drive components are selected as required by the conveyor circuit and are mounted on a drive plate which serves as a take-up unit. All drives are complete with overload protection and drive guards. Constant or variable speed units available. All drives are designed for full load start up.





### **Chain Vibrator**

Where a conveyed product resists complete discharge, a special chain vibrator can be incorporated. The vibrator mechanism penetrates the conveyor housing to make direct contact with the chain.



### **Idler Sprocket Turns**

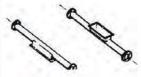
Sprocket turns are placed in a circuit in place of a bend to reduce frictional drag. They are available in any angle from 90° to 180°. They are most commonly placed in the circuit. Conveying product through an idler box is not recommended, although idler turns are often used as a product discharge point in a system.





### **Inlet & Discharge**

Chutes and hoppers are located where required along the straight sections of the conveyor circuit. The actual length and height of the hopper are determined by the flow characteristics of the conveyed product and the dimensions of interfacing equipment. It is quite common to provide a large surge hopper at the inlet for bag-dump operations.



### **Discharge Gates**

Manual or air-operated discharge gates allow the operator to choose which of a multiple of discharge points is to be used at a specific time. Commercially available knife or butterfly style valves, located below a standard discharge hopper, are also available.



### **Inspection Openings**

Inspection and access openings are located along straight casing sections.



# Powder Handling Systems

**Dischargers** 

### Superior design, outstanding performance

Spiroflow is internationally recognized as a leading equipment and solution provider for applications associated with dry bulk solids - whether in powder, granule, flake, pellet, lump or whatever form and whether in bulk quantities or as minor ingredients. The company was founded nearly 40 years ago with the Flexible Screw Conveyor as its cornerstone and with which the name Spiroflow has become synonymous.



Tubular Drag Conveyors \*CABLEflow / DYNAflow



Vacuum Convevors



Bulk Bag Fillers



ero-Mechanical Conveyors



Flexible Screw Conveyors

We aim to offer our customers the best solution, we have never believed in the 'one size fits all' philosophy. Accordingly, as we have expanded our horizons, we have developed our conveying ranges to meet the new challenges whether organically, by strategic acquisitions or through joint ventures. So, today, we offer the 5 types of conveyors illustrated above.

For nearly 40 years, we have designed, engineered and continuously developed our line of equipment and systems to effectively handle the enormous diversity of products to be found within today's process industries. Time and again, in food and pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and chemicals, minerals and plastics, our proven experience has enabled us to provide solutions to

meet every handling need. Our conveying systems are designed with a minimum of working parts for maximum reliability. They are simple to operate, easy to clean and maintain, and are dust-free in operation.

# Why two types of Tubular Drag Conveyor?

One size does not fit all. Each has been described in detail on the previous pages together with a list of their attributes. Our engineers will only be too pleased to help you choose the optimum for your application.

### Manufacturing

We actively encourage customers to visit our modern manufacturing facility at any time. Here, we are able to process orders efficiently and to our high quality standards.

### **After Sales**

At Spiroflow, we firmly believe that after sales service forms an integral part of the product. Over 70% of our business comes from existing customers, whom we work with as partners from the moment of placing an order and throughout the equipment's operational life.

### Design

We have an experienced team of mechanical and electrical engineers with a vast collective knowledge of solids handling, geared to handle your project quickly and efficiently, whether you need a single conveyor or a complete powder handling system.

### **Testing**

Our fully equipped test facility, which is at your disposal, assesses performance of our machinery on your particular material. On-site trials can also be arranged if preferred.

# GLOBAL POWDER HANDLING SOLUTIONS

Spiroflow Systems Inc. 2806 Gray Fox Road, Monroe, NC 28110, USA. Telephone: (1) 704 291 9595

Facsimile: (1) 704 291 9594 Email: info@spiroflowsystems.com Website: www.spiroflowsystems.com Spiroflow Limited Lincoln Way, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 1QG, UK.

Telephone: +44 (0) 1200 422525 Facsimile: +44 (0) 1200 429165 Email: sales@spiroflow.com Website: www.spiroflow.com