

Inspection checklist for production line maintenance

Material flow solutions play an essential role in maximizing production line efficiency. Now is the ideal time to carry out line inspections to ensure they are running as efficiently as possible. To help, here are our top areas to check during line maintenance. Ensure you have original and certified FlexLink spare parts available by contacting your local office. Delivery is available within a few days.



Are you regularly examining visible surfaces and components?

- Has a checklist been created for the visual inspection?
- Ensure safety devices are correctly installed, including the slack protection plates at the drive unit and transmission chain covers for the suspended drives types.
- Keep a record of observations to highlight repair or replacement, whether immediately or at the next scheduled stoppage.



Are you checking the conveyor chain?

- The chain is made of an elastic material, and over time will stretch as the material creeps. The stretch will show itself as slack on the return side of the drive unit. Ensure to remove any of this excess slack.
- Examine thickness of the chain links to check for wear.
- Is the conveyor chain intact? Check for broken links and excessive dust or particles.
- Changing chains in time prevents the chains from breaking, lowers friction, minimizes tensile force, and running noise.



Are you checking the slide rails?

- Check for visible scoring on the surface.
- If plain bends are fitted, check that the slide rail is not creeping across the edge of the profile.
- Changing slide rails in time prevents damage to profiles and chains, reduces friction, minimizes tensile force as well as stick-slip, and reduces noise levels.
- Some plain bends have an inner guide rail fitted inside the bent beam, not visible from the outside. Make sure to check the inner slide rail for wear.



Have you carried out a detailed inspection with the chain removed?

- Are the chain guides in the drive and idler unit fitted correctly? Have they started to wear?
- Is the slide rail fitted correctly and in place? Replace any that are missing or broken.
- Check that there is not any excessive play or damage to the drive unit shaft and bearings.
- Changing guides in time protects the knuckles on the underside of the chain and reduces rattle. Make sure you address potential damage and replace worn out components wherever necessary.



When replacing spare parts

- It is highly recommended that at the same time as replacing a worn part, you change the other wear parts which are in contact with it. Mixing new parts with used ones is likely to decrease the lifetime of the newly changed part.
- For example: if changing the chain, it is recommended to change the drive unit guides and sprocket at the same time.