

# MicroPoly<sup>®</sup>

## LUBRICANTS

**METAL PROCESSING  
FILLED BEARINGS**

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**CASE 1: Steel coil straightener**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Spherical roller bearings, 22211

**CONDITIONS:** Bearings were located deep within the equipment and could not be externally lubricated. Bearing life was 6 months.

**RESULTS:** MicroPoly filled bearings have been running 3 years with no failures. Cost savings have been substantial. Unscheduled down time to change out a failed bearing cost \$250,000.

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**CASE 2: Oven bearings, coating metal pipes**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Rexnord housed roller bearings

**CONDITIONS:** Bearings operate at 300 F. Bearing speed 80 RPM. Bearing life 2-3 weeks.

**RESULTS:** Bearings were filled with high temperature MicroPoly. Bearings have been running 3 months so far with no failures.

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**CASE 3: Billet turner bearings**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Tapered roller bearings

**CONDITIONS:** Billet comes out of reheat furnace and dependent on size and shape, may need to be turned 90 prior to entering mill stand for rolling. Estimated ambient temperature is 300 – 400 F and bearing life was approximately 2 months.

**RESULTS:** Bearings were filled with MPI-2000, high temperature MicroPoly. Bearings have been running for 9 months so far with no failures.

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**CASE 4: Crane wheel bearings**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Spherical and split roller bearings

**CONDITIONS:** Inconsistent bearing lubrication due to availability problems and safety considerations. This caused inconsistent bearing life.

**RESULTS:** Bearing life increased three to fourfold. Some plants totally eliminated manual lubrication.

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**CASE 5: Crane hook bearings**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Roller thrust bearings, about 100 mm bore

**CONDITIONS:** Water, scale and heat contamination, combined with limited ability to lubricate and inability to contain grease. Temperature less than 120 F.

**RESULTS:** Bearing life was more than doubled.



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**CASE 6: Table roll**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Spherical roller bearings, 23124 & 22224  
**CONDITIONS:** Water, scale and heat contamination. Bearing life 3 months. Temperature less than 120 F. Speed 120 RPM.  
**RESULTS:** With MicroPoly, bearing life was more than doubled.

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**CASE 7: Wire cabling for tire cord (one to five strands)**

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**BEARING TYPE:** 6204 single row ball bearing, shielded on one side  
**CONDITIONS:** Eccentric forces pushed grease out of bearing. Bearing life 2 hours to 7 days with conventional lubrication. Speed 1200 RPM and 2500 RPM eccentric speed.  
**RESULTS:** Bearing life 60-70 days with MicroPoly.

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**CASE 8: Wet strip grinders – squeegee & brush rolls**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Rexnord ZA 2203, 2-3/16" pillow block  
**CONDITIONS:** Water spray.  
**RESULTS:** MicroPoly filled bearings increased life twofold.

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**CASE 9: Acme strip grinder-polisher**

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**BEARING TYPE:** ZA 2207, Rexnord housed roller bearings  
**CONDITIONS:** Slow speed; ambient temperature; soapy water. Bearing life 2-3 weeks.  
**RESULTS:** Currently getting 6 weeks life out of bearings.

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**CASE 10: Hot strip mill runout table rolls**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Tapered roller bearing, 7" bore  
**CONDITIONS:** Water and heat. MicroPoly serves as a back up to an automatic lubrication system to reduce the unscheduled maintenance. Bearing life was unpredictable and inconsistent.  
**RESULTS:** Bearings have been in use for 2 years.

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**CASE 11: Slab mill feeder table**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Spherical roller bearings, 23124  
**CONDITIONS:** Water quench.  
**RESULTS:** MicroPoly filled bearings have increased life threefold.





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**CASE 12: Furnace Bearing**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Spherical roller bearing, 22226CK

**CONDITIONS:** Heat from furnace melted lubricant in bearing, causing melted lubricant to leak onto the steel strip. Temperature 300 F.

**RESULTS:** High temperature MicroPoly was installed in the bearings. The leakage problem has been solved, eliminating the need to scrap materials due to lubricant contamination.

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**CASE 13: Scale conveyor**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Roller bearings

**CONDITIONS:** Conveyor removes scale for a water and scale-filled pit for a steel mill. Bearing life 6-8 days.

**RESULTS:** MicroPoly filled bearings lasted more than 9 months.

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**CASE 14: Coil car wheels**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Tapered roller bearings

**CONDITIONS:** Bearings are located below floor level. Grease was washed out due to high pressure cleaning of the car. Bearing life sporadic; less than one year.

**RESULTS:** MicroPoly filled bearings were installed. Customer discontinued monitoring after 5 years, with no bearing failures in those 5 years. Annual savings of \$20,000.

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**CASE 15: Scrubber line**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Spherical roller bearings

**CONDITIONS:** Lubricant was washed out of bearings, resulting in failure in 1 week. Failure of these bearings caused a domino effect and resulted in damage of other related equipment.

**RESULTS:** MicroPoly extended the life of the bearing in the scrubber line to 1-3 months. This resulted in an annual cost savings of \$87,800.

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**CASE 16: Pipe mill – hydro tester**

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**BEARING TYPE:** Cam followers

**CONDITIONS:** Grease was being washed out of the rollers, causing the rollers to lock up. This caused the pipe to skid across the bearings. Bearings lasted 2 to 3 weeks. Over a 12 month period, the cam yoke rollers failed 15 times. Down time costs associated with these failures was estimated to be \$1,000 per occurrence, or \$15,000 annually. The roller cost per replacement was also estimated to be \$1,000 per occurrence.

**RESULTS:** MicroPoly filled bearings were installed. Bearings have been running 18 months with no failures. After 5 months a cost savings study was done, showing \$12,500 in cost savings in just the first 5 month period.





## METAL PROCESSING SOLID PROFILES

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### CASE 17: Re-bar and angle iron, open conveyor, return guide

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**MICROPOLY TYPE:** 1" x 2" x 12" chain lube block

**CONDITIONS:** Some radiant heat, less than 200 F. Previous chain guide material did not hold up and had to be replaced 3 or 4 times per year.

**RESULTS:** MicroPoly chain lube blocks, placed at interval spacing, reduced replacement frequency of chain guide to once per year. This resulted in saving significant material replacement and labor costs.

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### CASE 18: Shotblast car

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**MICROPOLY TYPE:** Bronze bushings plugged with MicroPoly

**CONDITIONS:** Steel shot contamination. Life unpredictable.

**RESULTS:** Life increased three to fourfold with MicroPoly.

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### CASE 19: Shears

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**MICROPOLY TYPE:** Bronze liners plugged with MicroPoly

**CONDITIONS:** Normal mill environment, lube lines were damaged. Life unpredictable.

**RESULTS:** Achieved 4 to 10 years life with MicroPoly.