In long-wall mining, conveyors are being extended to record lengths.

Only Continental Conveyor has installed over 300 large drives (300 HP and over) nationwide since 1980—here's why:

From 1980 to 1987, Continental Conveyor furnished to the underground mining industry more than 300 large drives at many locations ranging from 300 to 1,200 horsepower with belt widths of 48 inches or greater.

In long-wall mining, conveyors are being extended to record lengths. And larger drives are needed to carry the load.

Continental Conveyor can give you the drive for your requirement. In the past 8 years alone, we've installed more than 300 large drives at many locations ranging from 300 to 1,200 horsepower—and components for drives incorporating boosters up to 2,000 horsepower. Today, our large drives power conveyors to over 3 miles in length.

Each drive is custom-engineered for your specific application. We use precise mathematical models for calculating horsepower and tension; sizing components; and selecting optimum configuration. We still control in our plants every aspect of design, engineering and manufacture of our drives, take-ups and tail sections, including pulleys and shafts, to ensure that all application specifications are met.

As a result, we can provide just the right amount of horsepower—no more, no less. This assures you of the performance you need at the lowest possible cost.

No other conveyor manufacturer knows large drives like Continental. Give us your haulage requirement and we'll build the drive to handle it. Write or call for a FREE copy of our conveyor catalog today.
How a 7-mile-long Continental conveyor helped Dolet Hills Mining Venture win a 2.5 million tons per year contract

A 7-mile-long overland Continental conveyor carries 14,000 to 15,000 tons of lignite daily.

Continental conveyor pays its way with lower operating and maintenance costs.

Dolet Hills Mining Venture, in operation since 1985, has a 25-year, 2.5 million tons per year contract to supply lignite to a power plant. A Continental Conveyor overland conveyor system, consisting of four separate flights, carries the lignite over 7 miles of hilly Louisiana terrain.

Competing for the contract against eight other firms, Dolet Hills proposed a unique solution:

Transport the lignite using Continental conveyors. This allowed Dolet Hills to locate the loading point at the least costly point, where overburden is thinnest.

"By using a Continental conveyor, we were able to mine in an area with a low stripping ratio," says Mine Manager John Schocke. "Because of the size of the contract, the higher capital cost of the conveyor was offset by lower maintenance and operating costs."

The lignite is black, porous, with 7,000 BTU per pound. Overburden is mostly silt, sand, and clay—relatively easy and inexpensive to strip. Mineable seams average 3-9 feet in thickness; the lignite is not blasted or ripped, but broken by a backhoe as it is loaded.

A cost-effective alternative to hauling by truck

By providing a conveyor that reliably hauls lignite 7 miles, Continental eliminated the cost of building and maintaining roads for hauling lignite by truck. "We were faced with building a 9-10 mile road in an area where roadway materials are hard to find and must be hauled in," says Schocke. (The Dolet Hills Mining Venture is located just south of Shreveport, Louisiana.)
"The Continental conveyor provided a more cost-effective and environmentally acceptable alternative."

"Little or no replacement of conveyor parts"

"As far as reliability goes, the Continental conveyor is excellent," notes Schocke.

"The system now hauls 2.5 million tons per year and is designed to handle twice that. In 3 years of operation, there has been little or no replacement of conveyor parts. Our conveyor has something like 40,000 bearings, and we lost maybe 2. That amazes me."

"I'm also impressed with the conveyor's programmable controller, also furnished by Continental Conveyor. If there's a misalignment, plugged chute, overtorque, or any other major problem, the programmable controller analyzes signals transmitted by the conveyor and shuts the drive down. And it works!"

"The cleanest conveyor I've ever been around"

"The Continental belt is the cleanest conveyor I've ever been around. Reason: The belt does a 180-degree turnover at each end, so that the dirty side always faces up, preventing spillage along the length of the conveyor and necessitating clean-up at the ends only."

"Because the whole system is so clean and operates so well, we're able to run the entire 7 miles of conveyor with only two people per shift!"

Continental Conveyor: "An important part of our success"

"The Continental conveyor system helps us deliver the tonnage required at the price our customer agreed to pay. Most people would look at Dolet Hills and agree that this is a successful mine-mouth operation. And the Continental conveyor is certainly an important part of our success."

For more information and a free conveyor catalog, call or write Continental Conveyor today.

By providing a conveyor that reliably hauls lignite 7 miles, Continental eliminated the cost of building and maintaining roads for hauling lignite by truck.

Belt capacity is 1,500 tons per hour at 800 feet per minute. Belt width is 36 inches.
High-capacity mining conveyor problems?

How a linear drive can cut your haulage costs and improve your conveyor's reliability

Linear or "booster" drives are placed under the main belt at strategic points. This unique application of drive power reduces belt tension. The weight of the material presses the top belt against the "booster" belt and the linear drive moves both forward.

By using long-wall techniques, today's mines are going deeper and producing more tons per hour than ever before. Head gate entries are getting longer and longer, and at these distances, conventional drives develop tensions that are not easily handled using standard belt width mechanical fasteners.

The Continental solution? A unique "linear drive" system placed under the main conveyor to help move the load and also reduce the stress on the system.

Linear drives eliminate expensive, labor-intensive transfer points by allowing coal to be carried from the mine face to the discharge point of the head gate conveyor on a single continuous conveyor. (Maintenance costs today for a single transfer point can easily run $75,000 to $100,000 per year or more.)

Linear drives also reduce belt tension, which means you can use a medium-rated belt with mechanical fasteners instead of a costly steel-cable belt.

What's more, the use of standard components and multiple redundant drives ensures reliable, trouble-free operation for minimum down-time. (And down-time is something that is not acceptable when you speak in terms of thousands of dollars per minute.)

At Continental we have 14 years experience in linear drives. For a complete installation list and more information on linear drives, call or write Continental today.