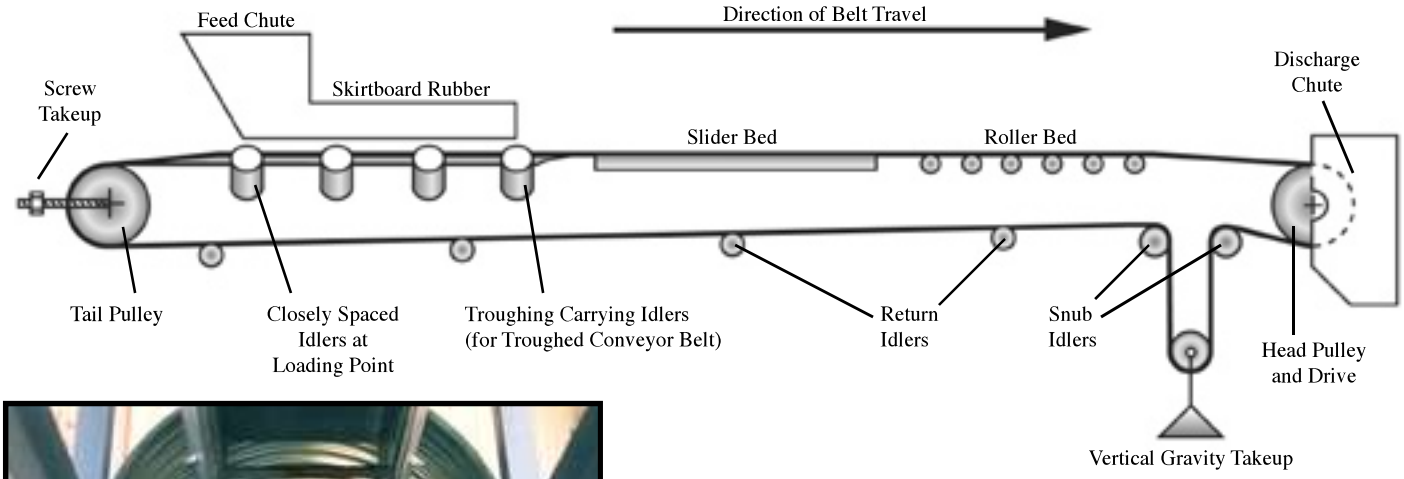
Conveyor Terms and Definitions

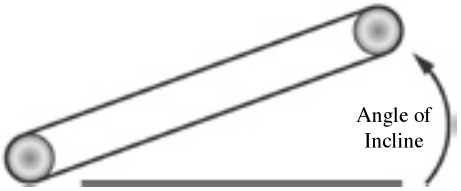
The following schematics with terms and definitions are included here to help enable Beltservice distributors to better discuss their conveyor belt needs with our salespeople so that the right belt is selected for the application.



Troughing Idlers
Normally – 20° 35° 45°

CONVEYOR TERMS

Horizontal Conveyor



Incline Conveyor

Angle of Incline

The degree a conveyor is tilted from horizontal.

Return Idler

Idlers used to support belt as it passes underneath the conveyor structure.

Snub Idler

Idler used to increase the amount of belt in contact with the pulley or to deflect the belt in a different direction. Snubbing a belt near a pulley can increase the effectiveness of the pulley.

Drive Pulley

Pulley connected to a power source used to drive conveyor. Usually the drive pulley is the head pulley, but on some kinds of systems, including many package handling conveyors, the drive pulley is located underneath the conveyor.

Roller Bed

Free-wheeling, usually closely spaced rollers used to support the conveyor structure.

Tail Pulley

Pulley at the beginning of the carrying run of the conveyor. The tail pulley is usually free-wheeling.

Gravity Takeup

Device used to remove slack and stretch in a conveyor belt. A free weight is suspended from an idler on the return side of the belt. The takeup is free to lower as needed to remove any slack as the belt is operated. The gravity takeup is usually located as close to the drive pulley as possible.

Screw Takeup

Device utilizing a bolt construction used to lengthen the conveyor to remove slack in the conveyor belt. By moving a bolt, the tail pulley is pushed away from the head pulley thus removing slack from the belt.

Troughing Idlers

Grouping of idlers on the carrying side of the conveyor designed to make the conveyor belt curve into a cupped shape, increasing conveyor capacity. Troughing idlers are usually 20°, 35°, or 45°.

Head Pulley

Pulley at discharge end of belt. The head pulley is usually powered by conveyor drive source. Pulley "pulls" belt along the conveyor.

Slider Bed

Smooth, flat surface (usually steel or wood) on which the loaded conveyor belt rides.

Skirtboard Rubber

Skirtboard rubber is primarily used at the loading point to guide product into the center of the belt and to prevent spillage.