Frequently Asked Questions



Is PowerTwist temporary? How long will it last? Does it last as long as a rubber V belt (RVB)?

PowerTwist is a permanent solution for power transmission belt drives. The length of life depends entirely on the type of application and conditions the belt is subject to. In the harshest environments PowerTwist should last many times longer than a RVB if installed correctly.

How long has PowerTwist been around? Is this a new product? Where is it made?

PowerTwist was introduced over 35 years ago and was the original link belt in the market. It is made entirely in the USA.

I currently don't experience any problems with my RVB, why should I use PowerTwist?

PowerTwist will save you money through faster, easier installation and provides the ability to reduce inventory and still have every belt you need.

What material is this belt made from?

Individual links are made from custom polyurethane elastomers reinforced with multiple plies of polyester fabric.

Does PowerTwist stretch?

The material itself does not stretch. However, during the initial run-in period, the tabs will seat, causing the overall belt length to elongate, thus requiring a single retension within 30 minutes of running under full load.

Will PowerTwist reduce my energy costs?

When correctly installed, the lack of necessary retensions increases process efficiency, thus reducing energy costs.

Is PowerTwist heat- and cold-resistant? What are the maximum and minimum temperatures?

PowerTwist operates with no loss in performance at extreme temperatures ranging from -40°F to 240°F (-40°C to 116°C).

Is PowerTwist resistant to chemicals, water, and grease?

PowerTwist is unaffected by oil, grease, water, and many common industrial and agricultural chemicals.

Won't PowerTwist create more vibration and noise when running?

PowerTwist does not have the continuous tension cords found in conventional endless belts. As a result, transmitted vibration in the drive system is reduced by 50% or more. Consequently, system noise is reduced and, as a bonus, bearing life extended.

What is the difference between red and blue PowerTwist?

Classical profiles are red; wedge profiles are blue.





Does PowerTwist have the same cross section dimensions as RVBs? Does it ride higher in the pulley?

PowerTwist profiles are designed to fit industry standard pulleys. It does ride higher than a standard RVB.

Does PowerTwist fit into my existing pulleys? Will it wear out (damage) my pulleys?

PowerTwist drops right in to existing pulleys, with no change in set up. When installed and tensioned correctly, it will not wear out standard steel or cast iron pulleys any faster than a RVB.

Can I make matched sets?

For multiple belt drives, simply measure, count, and make each belt the same number of links; this will effectively create a matched set of belts.

How do the hp ratings compare to RVB?

PowerTwist power ratings are comparable to standard RVBs.

What are the maximum rpms PowerTwist can run at? What are the recommended rpms?

The recommended rpms are fully dependent on the pulley diameter. The linear speed capability of the belt is 5,000 ft/min (25.4m/s).

Will PowerTwist work on automobiles or lawn and garden equipment? What drives should I avoid?

PowerTwist is not designed to replace cogged raw edge belts, as seen in most automobiles. PowerTwist should also not be used in clutching applications.

At what tension do you install it? How do you confirm tension?

To determine the correct tension you must follow the PowerTwist installation instructions. When first installed it will appear to have a higher tension than a RVB. A retension will be required within 30 minutes due to the seating of the links.

What length do you make PowerTwist to install? Do I measure my RVB and then measure the PowerTwist to the same size?

PowerTwist must be installed following the installation instructions and never based solely on the length of a RVB. You must measure the "hand-tight length" on your drive, then remove a predetermined number of links to ensure proper belt tension while running.

Why does PowerTwist cost more than a rubber V belt?

PowerTwist is a premium, value-added product that ultimately saves you money through fewer belt replacements, faster installation, minimized maintenance, and reduced inventory. Need proof? There are a number of success stories available on our website.



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