### **Operational Techniques**

#### MAINTAIN CORRECT TRACK TENSION

Although Flexhaul track system utilizes very minimal track tension, proper tension is important for best track performance. Tension can change during service. Improper tension can increase the potential for derailing or untracking, or reduced life of bearings and rolling components.

#### KEEP MATERIAL OUT OF THE UNDERCARRIAGE

The track systems will allow some material to pass through them, but sharp non-compressible objects cause high localized loads to both track and wheels, which if severe enough, can result in track and wheel damage. Inspect and clean material from the undercarriage before starting work.

#### CROSSING DITCHES OR DIAGONAL **TRANSITIONS**

During transitions from sloped to flat areas (or vice versa), the front and rear of the track may be in contact with the ground while the mid-section is unsupported. If turning is attempted at this time, the risk is higher for derailing or untracking to occur.

#### USE OPTIMAL TRACK AND WHEEL WIDTHS

Use recommended track width for the application and the appropriate width rolling stock. Use of wide tracks and wide midrollers increases track and wheel life, resulting in less ground disturbance, better ride, and better ground pressure distribution.

#### LIMIT SHARP TURNS

When pulling implements with a Flexhaul track system, avoid sharp turns or pivots. Sharp turns cause one or both tracks to slide across the surface resulting in berming, road surface damage, and excessive tread wear.

#### THE FLEXHAUL TRACK SYSTEMS

are designed to maximize performance and productivity of your pull-behind applications when and where you need it with:

- Even weight distribution to easily and safely handle uneven terrain
- Excellent flotation with minimal soil disturbance
- Easily interchangeable to work with multiple pull-behind applications
- Maximum reliability to assure you get the job done anytime, anywhere

#### THE FLEXHAUL TRACK SYSTEMS

use Camoplast rubber tracks, specifically, designed for the pull-behind applications to provide:

- Lower vibration during transport
- Lower turning resistance
- Minimal soil disturbance
- Long life

The patented undercarriage design incorporates independent movement of the idlers and midrollers both front-rear and side-side to deliver:

- Even weight distribution allowing the tracks to follow the contours of the ground
- Smooth ride over the roughest terrains
- Reduced point loads increasing longevity of the undercarriage and implement components

Find additional information on Camoplast Flexhaul track systems at www.camoplast.com



# CAMOPLAST FLEXHAUL





#### **IMPORTANT**

Please read before operating your Camoplast Flexhaul track system.

Congratulations on the purchase of a Flexhaul track system. The track system offers benefits which can be maximized by following recommended operational practices. In reviewing these guidelines, you will learn the best ways to gain these benefits.

The four basic rules for maximizing track life are:

- Follow track break-in procedures
- 2 Verify and maintain alignment
- 3 Understand ways to maximize tread life
- 4 Use correct operational techniques

By understanding these rules, you learn operational techniques and methods which help achieve years of trouble-free service.

## Follow Track Break-in Procedures

Guide lug life benefits from correct break-in procedures. Correct break-in reduces initial guide lug wear. During the break-in period, rolling components undergo a polishing-in process to achieve a smooth steel to rubber interface with the guide lug. Rubber surfaces use dust and dirt as a dry lubricant during break-in to minimize heat and reduce rubber stickiness. New tracks lacking a coating of dust should be exposed to dry and dusty soil conditions as soon as possible. Operation without dust or soil in the system, especially during extended and/or high speed roading, generates excessive amounts of damaging heat. If roading must be done, then a dry lubricant such as soil, talc, or floor-dry should be applied to the guide lugs periodically during roading until exposure to the field commences.

#### TRACK BREAK-IN (RULE #1)

Expose new or clean tracks to dry and dusty soil conditions as soon as possible. Avoid high speed roading with new or clean tracks without use of a dry lubricant.

### Verify and Maintain Alignment

## Track alignment is the most important periodic check that can be made on a track system.

Alignment can change due to component wear, track damage, operation on sloped surfaces, or following track replacement. Misalignment causes wear to guide lugs, so periodic alignment checks are important. By checking if there is significant difference in surface temperatures or wear between the inner and outer guide lug faces, you can determine if the track is in proper alignment.

One simple way to check alignment is to pull the implement with the Flexhaul track system installed as straight as possible on a flat surface for at least 300 feet. After stopping, observe if there is clearance with the front midrollers (1) on both sides of the guide lugs (2) [see Figure 1]. If no clearance is evident on one side, the track may be out of alignment.

Note: narrow tracks are more difficult to align and may not always have clearance, so minimizing guide lug inner / outer temperature difference is the best way to achieve correct alignment.

#### TRACK ALIGNMENT (RULE #2)

Monitor track alignment and recheck periodically.

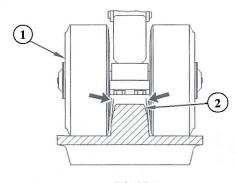


FIGURE 1

#### **Maximize Tread Life**

Several operational factors influence tread wear:

- Amount of roading (roading increases wear)
- Track width (narrower wears faster)
- Field soil conditions (abrasive increases wear)
- Operating weight and distribution
- Operator techniques

Tread life decreases with higher percentages of roading (Figure 2). Tread wear rates can be minimized by staying off pavement, and reducing transport weight and speed. The greatest rate of tread wear occurs on a hot day with a poorly balanced or heavily, loaded system. Always transport during cooler parts of the day and at reduced travel speeds and weight, as this will lower temperatures of the treads, guide lugs, and rolling components.

#### MAXIMIZE TREAD LIFE (RULE #3)

Use care during road transport. Note conditions that cause high tread wear rates.

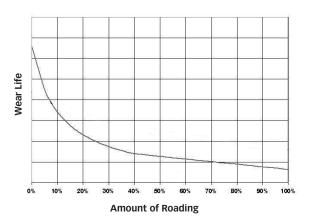


FIGURE 2