

VARIOLOC MODULAR SKID CONVEYOR SYSTEM

VARIOLOC IS A HIGHLY FLEXIBLE SOLUTION FOR BUFFER ZONES IN AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTION LINES. IT CAN EASILY BE MODIFIED IN RESPONSE TO VARYING PLANT THROUGHPUTS.

In automotive skid conveyor lines, separate assembly processes are usually linked via roller conveyors, transfer cars and chain conveyor systems, all of which have a multitude of drives. In buffer and storage zones, it is important to keep all systems up and running even though these sections may only be used at certain times (e.g. production stoppages, ends of shifts). This involves a huge number of system components.

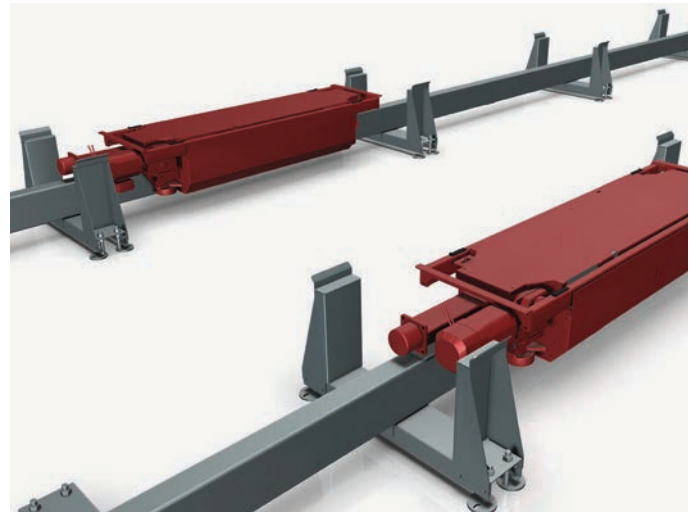
The VarioLoc skid conveyor system reduces the maintenance required by infrequently used zones, significantly improving a plant's cost-efficiency. In addition, buffer and storage solutions based on this system can be more flexibly tailored to meet changing throughputs.

Smart yet simple

VarioLoc is a reliable, innovative solution combining several tried-and-tested systems, such as inverted monorails and eccentric lifting tables. The VarioLoc shuttle moves along a rail installed at floor level and raises, lowers and transports skids and bodies. Fixtures at each side of the rail support the skids and bodies and the rail has no control components. Only the shuttle unit is equipped with a travel drive and lifting element.

A transfer roller conveyor with an integrated rail is used to convey the skids to the shuttle unit. This roller conveyor may be installed on a transfer car. Other material-flow solutions such as lifting units can be integrated at this point, too.

During a transfer, the shuttle unit moves beneath a skid, lifts it and then moves it to the buffer section of the conveyor, positioning the skid at a predetermined empty storage location. The storage locations are managed by a stationary programmable logic controller (PLC).



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Flexible, reliable and ready for future challenges

Its modular design makes VarioLoc a very versatile system. Depending on the throughput, a single shuttle unit can be used in multiple conveyor sections by means of a transfer car. At high throughputs, more than one shuttle unit may be used in a section.

Eisenmann's VarioLoc is easy to maintain thanks to carefully considered use of mechanical and control components. Due to its flexible design, it can easily respond to varying plant production throughputs. It can also be simply and efficiently converted for the skidless transport of vehicle bodies. Skidless operation of a paint shop minimizes expenditure on logistics and can cut energy consumption substantially.

Advantages at a glance

- Modular design, flexibly deployable in multiple storage zones at once
- Fail-safe and maintenance-friendly
- Responsive to varying throughputs
- Convertible to skidless transport of vehicle bodies

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