ASGCO® - Safe-Guard™ Return Idler Cage Solves Safety Issues

**Industry:** Southeastern Coal Mine Surface Facility  
**Application:** 48” Conveyor system  
**Product:** ASGCO® Safe-Guard™ Conveyor Return Idler Cage  
**Objective:** Address safety concerns for unsuspecting employees, as well as, visitors in close proximity to the overland conveyors. The measures were also put in place to bring the conveyors in compliance with MSHA and OSHA standards in regards of proper guarding.

**Challenge**
This coal mine facility faced many challenges, as all bulk handling facilities do. Overcoming obstacles in improving the safety of their conveyor system was a top priority. These type of conveyor systems have a tendency to mis-track causing the belt to cut into the hanging metal brackets holding the return roller in place. If and when the bracket gives way the large return roller will be sent tumbling downward creating a dangerous safety hazard.

![Due to misalignment the belt is rubbing into the metal bracket.](image1)  
![Fallen rollers underneath the conveyor.](image2)

**Recommendations:**
After a thorough inspection of the conveyor it was pointed out that in addition to resolving the belt mis-tracking issue there needed to be further changes made to ensure safety in the workplace and to comply with OSHA and MSHA requirements. It was recommended that they install ASGCO® Safe-Guard™ Return Idler Cages to protect the return rollers and objects from falling, preventing injuries to workers and equipment.

![ASGCO® Safe-Guard™ Conveyor Return Idler Cage](image3)  
![ASGCO® Safe-Guard™ Conveyor Return Idler Cage installed around roller.](image4)

**Results**
ASGCO® Safe-Guard™ Return Idler Cages were installed in the work areas and along the roadways to catch the return rollers if they fell. This brought the conveyors into compliance with MSHA title 30 regulations and helped the mine to reach its safety compliance goal. The customer was very pleased with the success.