

Dust, mud, splashes: "captive" glide elements

New heavy-duty igus linear guide for the toughest of environmental conditions

Cologne-based igus GmbH, a specialist for lubricant and maintenance-free linear technology using polymer glide elements for rough applications, has developed a new linear guide system for the toughest of environments. The new linear guide DryLin T "Heavy Duty", which was presented at the Hanover Industrial Fair 2005, has been designed for the toughest of jobs in the concrete and stone industry, for automotive applications (e.g. electrode holders), in the food industry (e.g. pastries on rails which quickly stick together) or even in road construction and in the extremely dirty environment of quarries or mines.

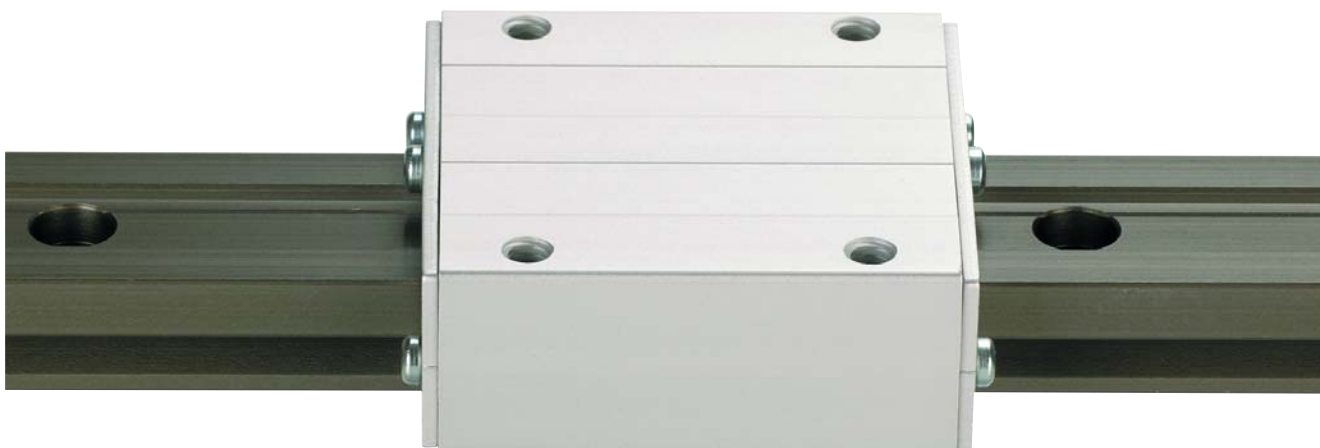
Polymer solutions tried and tested for years

The linear guide DryLin T, which has been available for many years, is currently being used very successfully, particularly in dirty environments. Existing applications include woodworking, paper and textile processing and packaging machinery. The linear guide is not even affected by environments where water, lyes or acids usually clog most ball guide systems. This is even true for mud; the company Haas Maschinenbau GmbH in Oberbrück, Swabia, for example, uses igus linear technology with plastic bearing materials in a concrete pipe mortising machine. "The

machine has been working for more than three years under the toughest of operating conditions without any problems or down times," says chief designer Reiner Oberle. "There are no signs of wear or abrasion." With the ball bushes originally used, dirt repeatedly caused "ball blockage, which in turn destroyed the hard-chromium plated shafts," Reiner Oberle reports.

New: DryLin T "Heavy Duty" - glide elements with interlocking bearing

The new linear guide DryLin T "Heavy Duty", presented at the Hanover Industrial Fair, is now even sturdier. New design feature: the glide elements made of the igus polymer compound iglidur J (extremely low friction and wear values) are interlocked in place on all sides within the guide carriage. The individual glide elements are suspended via drill holes in the metal casing. Once pushed onto the guide rail, the linear guide system operates round-the-clock in dust, mud and splash conditions which can arise during welding, for example. The material strength and high elasticity of the plastic elements allow the use of DryLin T "Heavy Duty" even in applications subject to high stress, caused by impact, blows or vibration.



Picture PM0805-01: igus GmbH, Cologne

New linear guide system DryLin T "Heavy Duty" from igus with glide elements anchored in the casing.

Lubricant, maintenance and corrosion-free

The new linear guide system comprises a guide rail system made of hard anodized aluminium, plus a guide carriage of anodized aluminium. It is supplied as a complete system in lengths of up to four metres. The rails and carriage are pre-assembled and the carriage has been adapted to the rails. As with all iglidur plain bearings and DryLin linear bearings, no lubrication is necessary - it is so-called dry running - which makes the system maintenance-free. In addition, DryLin T "Heavy Duty" is corrosion-free and even suitable for underwater operation.



Picture PM0805-02: Haas Maschinenbau, Oberbrück
Concrete pipe mortising machine in mud: since ball bushes didn't work, Haas Maschinenbau (Oberbrück) replaced these with the DryLin linear guide system from igus. The machine has now been running without any problems whatsoever for three years.

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