

Taking Heavy Lifting to New Heights

Vanguard Lifts Two 1 200-Ton Stockpile Conveyor Sections



Australian mining company First Quantum needed to assemble two new conveyor sections to columns 60 m above the ground at a site in the Zambian Copper Belt. After months of consultation, it was agreed that instead of assembling the sections at height, they would be assembled at ground level and later lifted by Vanguard to their final positions.

In addition to increasing the efficiency of the project by enabling assembly of these two conveyor sections to take place at ground level, the saving to client was also that they never had to import large cranes into what was a very remote location within Zambia.

The only challenge was: **these conveyor sections weighed 1 200 tons each.**

Ron Wiggill, Vanguard's heavy lift engineer responsible for the design and implementation of the lift and associated works, confirms that it took nearly six months to conclude the design!

To complete the lifts, we used four 500-ton Dorman Long Strand Jacks mounted on predesigned pedestals at each corner of the support pillars. Once the jacks were in place and the anchor blocks attached to the conveyor sections, they were lifted and positioned in less than a day each.

1 200 tons is by far the heaviest lift ever completed on the African sub-continent, a tribute to Vanguard and our quest to the best at whatever we do.

