

# Kraemer Mining & Materials Solves Screen Wear Problems

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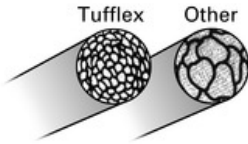
A screen wear life problem at Kraemer Mining & Materials, Inc. in Burnsville, MN was surprisingly resolved through a field quarry equipment review and recommendation by Unified® Screening & Crushing field representative, Jimmy Georgantones, working together with Mike Strom, Quarry Supervisor of the Kraemer Quarry. In addition to the solution... “The Unified recommendation also proved to increase cost efficiencies for the quarry”, according to Mike Strom.

Kraemer’s 6’ X 18’ single deck PEP machines (equipped with 3 – 6’ X 6’ screens) are used for base, concrete, and asphalt processing and required frequent screen change-outs due to short wear life of the screening media being used. The Stainless Steel screens were regularly being replaced, as often as, every 2 weeks.

After the screen deck review, Unified® recommended that the existing 3/32” X 2” openings, originally using 0.047/304-Stainless Steel wire cloth screens be replaced with Unified’s special proprietary woven wire cloth material. Unified calls this screen media, Tufflex™. Tufflex is

designed for high impact and/or abrasive processes. The special Tufflex material offers greater tensile strength, ductility, and corrosion resistance.

The manufacturing process for Tufflex includes a proprietary and unique (to Tufflex) strength building process. The process creates higher tensile strength than other methods used in other screen media. Elongated and fine grains in the wire, decrease the surface rust and corrosion compared to other wire types. The finer and elongated metal grain structure in Tufflex wire is less susceptible to breakage and has increased ductility. Also, when the wire is drawn Unified determined that there is greater consistency throughout the wire.



Elongated and fine grains in the Tufflex wire.

The result for Kraemer was that screen change-outs were cut in half and consequently production increased, wear-life doubled and overtime costs were cut in half.

Mike Strom says, “The cost is about equal to High Carbon wire and half the cost of the originally used Stainless Steel, but the savings on change-out expenses are much greater”. Strom also added, “When it was time for the regular change-out, we decided to keep the Tufflex screens in because they still looked good and performed very well.”

“I got a good price and we more than doubled our wear-life,” said Strom. “I can’t complain. Think of it; half the change-outs, half the overtime, half the cost of stainless steel and double the wear life”.

For more information about these results, contact Jim Georgantones at Unified Screening & Crushing:

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