

Conveyor Case Study #8a

PACLINE Provides Inmate Property Storage Conveyor for Canada's Second Largest Jail



Background:

The Toronto South Detention Centre opened in 2014. This maximum-medium security correctional facility was built to replace three local jails in the Toronto area: the Toronto Jail (known as the Don Jail), the Toronto West Detention Centre and the Mimico Correctional Centre. The Mimico Centre, parts of which dated back to 1887, was finally demolished in 2011 to make room for the new state-of-the-art Toronto South Detention Centre.

Challenge:

As the second largest jail in Canada, the Toronto South Detention Centre has a capacity for over 2000 inmates. By law, all inmate property must be stored safely while individuals are incarcerated. At this centre, anywhere from 200-400 inmates may be entering or leaving the facility on a daily basis requiring either storage or access to their individual personal property.

Efficient and secure management (storage and retrieval) of this large amount of property was a key requirement for the new inmate property conveyor system at the Toronto South Detention Centre.

Solution:

PACLINE Overhead Conveyors was contracted to provide a fully automated garment bag handling system to manage all inmate property at the Toronto South Detention Centre.

PACLINE's Inmate Property storage and retrieval system uses their industrial-quality PAC-LINE™ enclosed track conveyor.

The complete PACLINE system for Toronto South Detention Centre included:

- 5 floor-supported, conveyor loops
- 5 RETREIVER™ controllers, one per loop
- Total capacity for over 2,000 property bags

Pacline also provided all mechanical and electrical design and installation.

Results:

The PACLINE Inmate Property Storage conveyor provided a highly efficient system for managing the property of over 2000 inmates. Using 5 separate conveyor loops helped to minimize retrieval time for any one garment. Only a single operator is required to store or retrieve an average of 300 property bags a day.

In addition, the PAC-LINE™ conveyor system offered greater safety for the detention centre operators. The enclosed-track design eliminates dangerous pinch points common in open sprocket type conveyor systems and ensures the fingers for the operators cannot come in contact with the moving chain.



Other features of the PACLINE Inmate Property Storage and Retrieval System:

- Track components are modular and bolt together. Not only is installation simple and quick as there is no welding required, modifications are also quick and simple. Track sections are small making it easy to move added parts through the multiple, secured entrance points typical of jails and detention centers.
- The track curves on the PACLINE system have extremely tight radius' allowing for very efficient use of space.
- The PACLINE conveyor track is made of hardened steel to reduce wear and the chain consists of horizontal AND vertical bearing wheels to ensure smooth movement around corners and through elevation changes all while fully loaded.

