Samson® Material Feeder

Bulk Materials Receiving Unit
A Unique Concept

SAMSON Materials Handling Ltd. developed the Samson® Material Feeder concept to satisfy the demands of clients requiring a mobile solution to receive general bulk materials such as coal and aggregates direct from tipping trucks in mainly ship loading applications and, where fixed plant was not a viable option.

The Samson® Material Feeder concept eliminated the need for any truck ramps, or fixed civil work and was rapidly extended to fixed plant projects where the flexibility of surface installation is a clear benefit. This is particularly realised in port applications where the high ground water level makes conventional underground pits expensive to construct and maintain.
Twin Samson® Material Feeders receive minus 25 mm limestone for the flue gas desulphurisation system in an US American power plant.

**Surface Installation**

The Samson® Material Feeder provides a compact solution in this intake facility for crushed limestone. Being delivered by trucks to the power plant working on a merry-go-round basis from a local quarry only 10 miles distant. A fast track flexible solution requiring the minimum of ground works.

- No deep pits
- No underground hoppers
- No expensive civil works
- Flexibility of location
- One piece integrated machine
- Receives direct from trucks
- Receives direct from shovels
- Buffer holding capacity
- Fast truck discharge
- Controlled rate feeding
- Handles dry and dusty materials
- Reduced dust generation
- Handles wet and sticky materials
- No risk of bridging or blockage
- Reduced energy consumption
- Easy maintenance access
- Easy housekeeping access
- Reliable in service
- Proven references worldwide
In this cement grinding plant located in the London Docklands two Samson® Material Feeders intake cement clinker plus gypsum.

**An Economical Solution**

As illustrated, a conventional underground truck tipping hopper with deep pit and feeder discharging to an inclined belt conveyor to raise the material out of the pit and onto the associated process plant.

It requires permanent and expensive civil works and cannot be relocated to accommodate plant development.
Construction Concept

The wide apron-belt design permits a very low loading height which allows the trucks to discharge direct to the entry section with only a small access ramp.

The wide apron-belt design combines the strength of a steel apron feeder with the cleanliness of a belt feeder. Since the material depth is less than the belt width, the bridging and blockages associated with conventional tapered hoppers is completely eliminated guaranteeing reliable discharge.

Flexible side seals contain the larger material whilst the raised belt edge contains any fines passing the main seal to prevent chain contamination.

Construction Concept

Trapezoidal shaped apron bars at every chain pitch provide maximum support and allow minimum sprocket diameter.

Flexible side seal with outer belt ledge

External chains outside the material flow

Steel apron bars support the load

Load carried on the chain rollers

Conveyor belt aligned with the chain pin centre and rivetted to the steel apron bars
Operational Concept

Material is drawn from the tipping truck into the Samson® Material Feeder body by the forward moving apron-belt conveyor. The operating concept can be divided into three stages as illustrated.

Stage A
The first truck arrives and discharges its material on to the forward moving Samson® Material Feeder apron-belt. The belt moves forward, so the material is drawn from the truck body.

Stage B
When the truck is empty it departs the Samson® Material Feeder and the material contained within the unit is continually discharged to the following conveyor system. The material moves forward and the entry section is exposed.

Stage C
After the first truck has departed, the following truck reverses into position. During this time period the forward moving apron-belt has exposed the entry section ready to accept the next truck contents. And so it goes on...

Broken glass is received by the Samson® Material Feeder at a recycling operation
Discharge Rate Control

As material is transferred from the truck or shovel to the Samson® Material Feeder the load level varies from zero to 100% along the machine length.

Since the output rate is proportional to the material bed depth and belt speed, it is necessary to regulate the bed depth such that the output rate may be controlled by varying only the belt speed.

The levelling blade solution maintains a constant bed depth at the discharge by cutting the peaks into the troughs and so enables the final output rate to be closely regulated.

For extremely cohesive materials the rotating teaser shown left performs the same task by cutting the flow into manageable pieces.
The Samson® Material Feeder with deflected chassis and parallel entry (width 3.0 m) receives broken glass from both tipping trucks and shovels

**Body and Entry Designs**

The Samson® Material Feeder deflected chassis design provides a near horizontal loading section to receive material from tipping trucks. This maximises the entry volume and eliminates any risk of the truck tailgate fouling the apron-belt.

For use only with shovels the Straight Chassis design is adequate to maintain the holding volume.

For operation with trucks the access ramp height directly controls the entry volume and therefore the time required to discharge the truck.

Illustration A shows a standard ramp giving a reasonable entry capacity of say 10 tons. Illustration B shows a raised ramp height giving an increased entry volume to reduce the truck tipping time and increase the overall average handling rate.

For operation with multiple truck designs, the universal truck entry provides total flexibility.
Samson® Material Feeder Construction

The Samson® Material Feeder is available in five basic design ranges each signified by the chain tension rating known as:

- **Samson® MF03xxx** for light materials and low duty applications.
- **Samson® MF04xxx** with its short pitch chain design ideal for medium duty mobile applications where the lowest entry height is required.
- **Samson® MF05xxx** for medium duty continuous process applications typically handling fuels, crushed stone, clinker and similar graded materials.
- **Samson® MF08xxx** for continuous duty applications handling heavier mineral ores and where continuous availability is mandatory.
- **Samson® MF16xxx** for extreme duty applications including ROM material sizes and for the most arduous operating conditions.
The Samson® Material Feeder is the ideal solution for the intake of dry and dusty materials where dust pollution is a real hazard.

Material free fall is nearly zero and the bulk of the truck contents is drawn into the body in a controlled stream which eliminates particulate separation and therefore virtually eradicating dust pollution at source.

Only when handling dusty materials (cement clinker for example) it is necessary to provide dust extraction and then only a relatively small air volume is required. Typically only 25% of the rate required for extraction on conventional deep hoppers thus saving not only on capital cost but also on long term operational costs.

**Dust and Fume Control**

Flow into the Samson® Material Feeder in a controlled stream

With a conventional underground hopper the material falls freely allowing particulate separation and generating high velocity of displaced air.

The displaced air ejects the dust particles from the hopper at high speed causing extreme fugitive dust pollution with both environmental, health and safety implications.
The Samson® Material Feeder enclosure integrated to a complete coal preparation plant handling ROM material direct from the adjacent open cast mine

Enclosures Systems

Enclosure with fume extraction for odious materials

Flexible PVC sheet partial enclosure

Enclosure with extended flared entry for large mining dump trucks

Full enclosure with flexible entry curtain but without dust extraction

Full enclosure with ducted dust extraction

Fixed enclosures clad in profiled steel sheeting over a fabricated steel frame made integral to the body of the Samson® Material Feeder eliminating the need for additional or separate buildings... less cost... greater flexibility.

The enclosure may be supplied complete as flat-packed components for site assembly or may be manufactured locally with an engineering only package by SAMSON Materials Handling.
The parallel head chute eliminates the risk of bridging and blockage when handling cohesive materials and it is always the preferred solution where the plant arrangement permits.

Where the ongoing conveyor is in-line or at an angle to the Samson® Material Feeder, the centralising chute is the only option but usually this solution is less compact and requires an increased discharge height.

**Discharge Interface**

The Samson® Material Feeder with a centralising head chute discharges to a conveyor positioned in-line.
For closely controlled discharge rate down to a few cubic metres per hour a suitable feeder device at the Samson® Material Feeder discharge is required.

Using the head chute as a small buffer hopper the output of the Samson® Material Feeder is regulated using a high level detector to stop/start the drive and maintain a constant level in the head chute.

Generally not used with a levelling blade except in special conditions.

**Feeder Options**

- **Vibro-Feeder controlling feed rate to a steep angle belt conveyor**
- **Kleen-line belt feeder transfer to Bucket Elevator**
- **Single screw feeder provides metered output to a Bucket Elevator**
- **Twin screws meter output to progressive cavity pump**
- **Vibro-Feeder with reject grill to remove over size material**
- **Vibratory feeder provides regulated output to an inclined belt conveyor**
Alternative Fuels

To satisfy sustainability obligations major energy users such as power utilities and cement plants utilise renewable resources such as wood chip and other wastes, by-products and co-products to offset their carbon footprint.

The Samson® Material Feeder is the ideal intake facility for such operations being able to handle most dry bulk solids with the added bonus of simplified installation, reduced project and operating costs and offering flexibility in location or possible relocation.

Wood chip intake for a brewery steam boiler

Intake from high capacity live floor trailers

The wide apron-belt Samson® Material Feeder concept is ideal for difficult materials
Direct coupled hydraulic motor drive with local or remote hydraulic power unit allowing the electric motor and control equipment to be positioned clear of the feeder in a more accessible location.

Stand alone Samson® Material Feeders are generally supplied with direct coupled electric motor drives with helical/bevel speed reducer mounted direct to the extended head shaft. For special applications tandem gears may be supplied (as shown above) and also hydraulic drives are available. ATEX certification supplied where required.

Drive Systems
For the safe operation and protection of the Samson® Material Feeder various items of field instrumentation are available:

A. Rotating warning beacon linked to a drive torque monitoring system to warn of impending overload and indicate to the operator to cease filling.

B. Ultrasonic detector to signal the presence of a vehicle at the entry and initiate a controlled startup sequence for the Samson® Material Feeder and the ongoing plant.

C. When the head chute forms a buffer hopper for an ongoing feeder this level detector is linked to the drive control to start the Samson® Material Feeder on low level and stop on high level, see the diagram below.

D. Blocked chute detector arranged to stop the drive if the head chute is over filled or blocked with material.

E. Tail shaft rotation sensor to inhibit the drive system in the event rotation is lost in normal operation.

F. Traffic lamp linked to the ongoing process control to signal either the machine readiness or the grade or type of material required.

G. Local control cabinet plus safety stop system.

Instrumentation

Twin Samson® Material Feeders with traffic management

Samson® Material Feeder starts on low level, stops on high level

Instruments are generally supplied loose but with mounting brackets to fix to the Samson® Material Feeder or chutes.

Chute level detection for use with an auxiliary feeder or when the ongoing conveyor acts as an extractor to control the feed rate.
Controls

Variable Output Rate
To control the output rate of the Samson® Material Feeder using the levelling blade system it is necessary to provide variable speed for the belt drive.

For mechanical drives an inverter is required to control the motor speed and therefore the belt speed. For a fixed levelling blade height the volumetric output rate is proportional to the belt speed.

For output rate control by mass the speed control may be linked to a belt weigher on the following conveyor.

Interfaces
Invariably the Samson® Material Feeder will be linked to a plant control system for sequencing with other equipment.

The Samson® Material Feeder may be supplied with a local PLC plus necessary communication protocol compatible with the main plant control systems.

Blending Systems
When several different materials must be blended onto a common collecting conveyor multiple Samson® Material Feeders, one for each material type, may be linked to a central controller and arranged to discharge a set blend ratio as a proportion of the total output as measured by a downstream belt weigh idler.

Control units are supplied loose for site installation either complete with all necessary motor control and logic gear or as a local control station only linked to an existing central motor control centre (MCC) perhaps located at some distance from the equipment.
Sizing and Screening

The Samson® Material Feeder may be supplied complete with integral rotary crusher or screening equipment to size the raw material before onward conveying, either as a package or engineered to suit free issue equipment.

Samson® Material Feeder plus twin shaft rotary sizer receives as-mined limestone from dump trucks and provides a manageable lump size for onward conveying.

Samson® Material Feeder supplied with vibrating screen to remove oversize material before onward conveying.

As-mined limestone minus 800 mm
Live Storage Solutions

For handling difficult materials that are liable to bridge and block in conventional silos the Samson® Material Feeder offers the ideal solution for live storage with holding capacities up to around 200 tons.

Illustrated is the conventional Samson® Material Feeder design with horizontal loading section and inclined discharge. With this arrangement the storage volume is generally limited by the increased chain tension required to raise the load.

Specialised application for the storage of sewage sludge including twin Samson® Material Feeders each with belt conveyor transfer to two horizontal storage units within the building, both to store and discharge on demand.
The side loading Samson® Material Feeder receives cement clinker for import directly to an existing conveyor installation.

**Side Loading and Drive over Tipping**

In confined spaces the side loading solution may provide an economical alternative allowing a simplified plant layout with reduced transfer points and minimum disruption to the process operation during the new equipment installation.

Side loading is particularly suited to drive-over-tip applications where the Samson® Material Feeder may be mounted below floor level or supplied with a suitable ramp, thus allowing the trucks to drive over the entry section, tip and continue in the same direction. As illustrated, the Samson® Material Feeder is below the floor level.

- Truck passes over the closed doors
- Special truck for wet and sticky nickel tailings
- Truck discharges through open doors

- Steep Samson® Material Feeder sides plates eliminate bridging
- Samson® Material Feeder beneath opening doors above
- Stop raises and doors open automatically

- Twin Samson® side tip feeders with vertical elevators to dome storage
Discharge facility for hopper bottom railcars receives coal for a cement plant including a Samson® Material Feeder with 80 tons holding capacity

**Samson® Material Feeder - Under Rail or Road**

The Samson® Material Feeder solution for railcar discharge may be implemented in a shallow pit, typically with depth only 4.0 metres, ideally suited in port area with high ground water level or where working on hard rock increases the cost of the excavation. A conventional tapered hopper could require as much as 14 metres of excavation to obtain the necessary hopper angle for reliable material flow handling such as industrial coals etc.

With a shallow pit, the material free fall is minimised and, since the apron-belt of the Samson® Material Feeder is wider than the typical railcar, the material flows outward reducing the velocity of the displaced air and thereby reducing dust generation.

With the deflected chassis design the raised discharge provides an ideal transfer to the following conveyor which, thanks to the shallow pit depth, may be of reduced length and therefore reduced energy input saving on capital and running costs.
Twin Samson® Material Feeders with full dust control integrated to this Mobile Shiploader permits direct bulk export from truck to ship

Mobile Shiploader and Stacker with Integral Samson® Material Feeders

Stormajor® Radial Boom Stacker with integrated Samson® Material Feeder MF16xxx series and radial stacking boom for barge loading

Stormajor® combines the benefits of a Samson® Material Feeder with a radial stacking boom mounted to a common mobile chassis
After Sales and Services

SAMSON Materials Handling Ltd. strive to deliver the highest standards of customer support and after sales service worldwide with the collaboration of the local AUMUND Group daughter companies and representative offices and including:

- Application advice
- Port or plant infrastructure survey
- Performance and selection criteria
- Operational guidance
- Machine selection and specification
- Supervision of site assembly
- Commissioning
- Advice on maintenance programmes
- Rebuilding and refurbishment
- Genuine spare parts
- Service contracts

Our engineers are highly trained and experienced in the SAMSON Materials Handling products and familiar with port operations and the demands of shipping schedules where equipment availability is critical to avoid demurrage costs.
Dedicated to providing the most comprehensive range of mobile solutions for bulk materials handling in Ports and Terminals, Mining, Environmental, Cement, Foodstuffs, Agriculture and Power.

Built around the unique concept of the Samson® Material Feeder, SAMSON Materials Handling offer flexibility, reliability, quality, and industry leading performance from truck intake right through to mobile stacking and ship loading solutions.