

Case Study

Thermal Monitoring Delivers 8x ROI for Global Online Retailer's Operations



Summary

A global online retailer implemented MultiSensor AI to monitor its High Speed Gapper Beds—critical assets in the material handling process. Real-time thermal monitoring led to early detection of belt tension issues, MultiSensor AI reduced downtime by 30%, increased throughput 11.4x, and cut maintenance costs by 40%, delivering a 20x return on investment.

Challenge

High Speed Gapper Beds are a vital component in the retailer's logistics chain with very high throughput. As a single point of failure, any malfunction leads to downstream disruption and lost productivity. Prior to MultiSensor AI, these beds were monitored manually with no real-time alert system—making it difficult to catch issues like belt over-tensioning or mechanical defects before failure. Failures could escalate quickly—sometimes within hours—leading to costly downtime and emergency maintenance.

Solution

MultiSensor AI deployed fixed thermal monitoring points directly on the High Speed Gapper Beds. These sensors provided live data on belt temperature and tension. The system continuously analyzed this data, allowing the Reliability Maintenance Engineering (RME) team to identify overtensioned belts and intervene before failures occurred. This real-time monitoring eliminated the need for frequent manual inspections and enabled more efficient, targeted maintenance.

Results

Real-Time Safety Alerts Multisensor AI's System delivers instant alerts when potential thermal incidents are detected, dramatically improving response times and situational awareness.

Zero Incidents Since Implementation Since the system went live, there have been no recorded thermal runaway events, highlighting the effectiveness of proactive monitoring.

Automated Incident Workflow The security team now receives automated alerts, shifting from passive monitoring to active intervention. Future plans include direct integration with emergency services to further streamline response times.

30%

Reduction in downtime through early detection of belt tension issues 11.4x

Increase in throughput from optimized gapping bed performance 40%

Maintenance cost savings by minimizing reactive repairs and spare part usage 20x

Return on investment driven by operational gains and cost reductions