

Q) Explain the storage of solid piles, Bins, Silos

Bin storage ⇒ A bin is typically much shorter than a silo, and it is typically used for holding dry matter

② Bins may be round or square

③ Stored material may be powdered as seed peanuts or cat corn

Piles ⇒

① Hopper is a small vessel with a slopy bottom as a temporary storage before feeding solids to a process

② It is filled at top and discharge is from bottom

③ Hopper can be vibrated externally

④ Angle of sloping side  $\geq$  angle of repose

Siloes ⇒ Siloes is a storage structure for storing bulk material like storage of grain, coal, cement, food particles etc. Siloe is tall and relatively small in diameter which is used in bin storage.

Types of siloes

- Current storage siloes
- Tower siloes
- Low oxygen tower siloes
- Bag siloes

There are two methods of storage of particulate solids in

- 1) open or unprotected storage
- 2) closed or protected storage

Open storage: coarse solids like coal, sulphur, sand and gravel are commonly stored outdoors as large open piles unprotected from the weather. The max. height at which the solids can be stored in piles depends on the angle of repose ( $\alpha_r$ ) of material. It is the maximum angle measured from horizontal at which a heap of solids will stand without sliding. If the solid mass is truly homogeneous then  $\alpha_r$  will be equal to the angle of Internal friction  $\alpha$ . In practice however,  $\alpha_r$  is always smaller than  $\alpha$  ( $\alpha_r < \alpha$ ). The value of  $\alpha_r$  is  $27^\circ$  for anthracite coal,  $31^\circ$  for fine sand,  $17^\circ$  for wet clay and  $39^\circ - 48^\circ$  for gravel. Outside storage in open piles is restricted to water-insoluble solid materials when thousands of tons of material are to be stored. This is the most economical method of storage when thousands of tons of material is to be stored. The solids are removed from the pile by tractor shovel and delivered to a conveyor or to the process unit. Outdoor storage can lead to environmental problems such as dusting or leaching of soluble material from the pile. Dusting can be prevented by covering the ~~solids~~ solids by a protective cover. Leaching can be controlled by covering the pile or by locating it in a shallow basin with an impervious floor from where water can be safely withdrawn. For exp - Rock salt - where a part of salt get dissolved in water and resultant brine is pumped to the nearby process units.

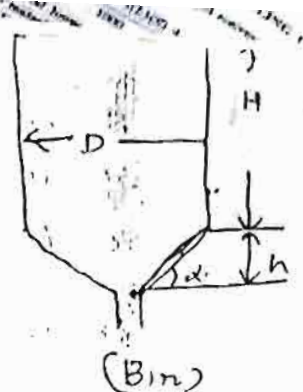
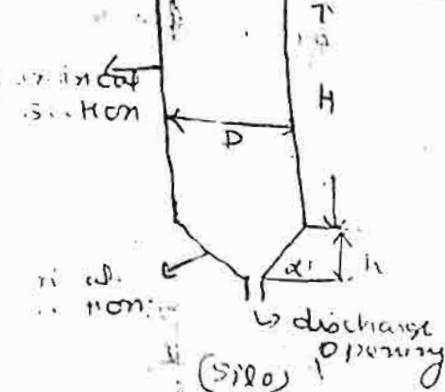
Protected or closed storage: - Solids which are valuable and ~~or very~~ <sup>to</sup> soluble to expose them in open piles are stored indoors in bins, silos or hoppers. These are cylindrical or rectangular vessels made of metal, reinforced concrete or wood.

Silo - is tall and small in diameter.

Bin: - is not so tall but with large diameter. Every storage bin has two sections: a cylindrical or rectangular upper section and a conical lower section with a discharge opening.

Hopper - is a small vessel with a sloping bottom. It is used for temporary storage before feeding solids to a process. <sup>solids</sup> open or churning holes in the bottom.

All these containers are loaded from top by screw conveyor or elevator and discharged through openings at the bottom.



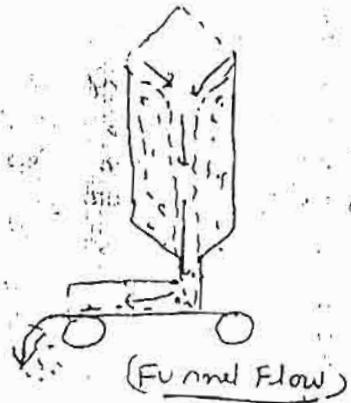
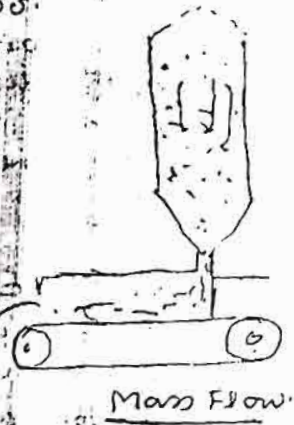
Differences between Mass Flow Bins and Funnel Flow Bins  
 Particles aggregate  
 Solids discharge out of system slowly

The shape of a storage vessel should be such that almost loading and unloading without the formation of dead zones. Dead zones are the zones where material is retained and not flow by gravity to the discharge opening. This is mostly due to an insufficient slope of side walls through which the material is directed to the discharge.

Two important flow patterns of storage vessel are:

1) Mass Flow :- Bins: when the outlet at the bottom of bin is opened, the material in the vessel begins to flow. Mass flow occurs in cone-bottomed bins with tall, steep slope - all the material moves downward uniformly from the top of the bin.

2) Funnel Flow bins: occurs when only a channel develops in bins with a shallow cone angle. Here a vertical column of solids above the opening moves downward without disturbing the material at the sides. A conical depression is formed on the surface of mass. The material slides into the central column at an angle approx. equal to angle of friction of solids. The solids near the bin walls remain stagnant and do not discharge. These type Funnel flow bins do not flow by itself and therefore are made to flow by some means.



2  
Differences between Mass Flow & Funnel Flow bins

Mass Flow Bins

particles segregate but discharge out through opening  
solids  
Particles don't flood when system discharges

Flow is uniform

Density of flow is const.

product does not remain in dead zones (degradation of product does not occur)

Bins can function as a blender

Funnel Flow Bins

1) Particles segregate and remain segregated and do not discharge  
2) First portion of solid - Top most layer comes out first while first portion ~~remains~~ is last to leave

3) Flow is erratic

4) Density of flow varies

5) Products tends to bridge or arch and then to rat hole when discharging (degradation of product may be)

Products can remain in dead zones until complete clearing of system is carried out

6) Bins perform satisfactorily with free flowing, large particle solids

The rate of flow of solids by gravity through a circular opening in the bottom of bin depends on dia. of opening and on the properties of solid. It does not depend on height of bed of solids. With free flowing solids the rate of solid flow (m) varies approx.  $Do^3$  (  $Do =$  dia. of discharge opening )

This unit involves following topics.

1. Conveying of bulk solids
2. Classification of conveyors
3. Selection of conveyors
4. Storage of solids in bulk, protected piles, bins, silos, hoppers, mass flow and funnel flow bins, flow assisting device.
5. Weighing of bulk solids, batch and continuous weighing techniques.

CONVEYING -

CONVEYER - conveyor is the device which is used to convey the material inside the factory region. And the process which is involved in this operation is known as conveying.

There is the difference between the conveying and transportation.

Difference between conveying and transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

CONVEYING

1. transportation involves the transfer of product from factory to outside and transfer of raw material from outside to factory (inside).

2. It is generally used for crude and raw material.

3. Transportation is cheap than conveying.

4. It has environmental problem such as leaching and dusting.

5. It has no extra cost such as maintenance of plants and inner handling devices.

1. Conveying involves the transfer of material inside the factory region.

2. It is generally used for valuable material such as products for handling and storage.

3. It is costly than transportation.

4. It has no such type of problem.

5. It has extra cost of handling and storage of material.

SELECTION OF CONVEYER

CAPACITY REQUIREMENT

capacity requirement is the prime factor for the selection of conveyor

The belt conveyors are manufactured in large size and operated at high speed but screw conveyors are manufactured in smaller size and cannot be operated at high speed.

CONVEYOR SELECTION ON THE BASIS OF SPECIAL FUNCTION

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. conveying material horizontally                                     | Belt, Apron, continuous flow, flight, screw, bucket, air vibrating,        |
| 2. conveying material up & down  | Apron, belt, continuous flow, air, screw, elevator, flight                 |
| 3. conveying material both the combination of horizontal and up & down | continuous flow, air, bucket, gravity discharge bucket, plated bucket,     |
| 4. Distributing material or collecting the material from Bt's          | continuous flow, air, gravity discharge bucket, plated bucket, Belt, screw |
| 5. Removing material from Rail, truck                                  | car dumper, car shaper, air  |

clarifying the material

Bucket elevator, continuous flow, air, skip hoist

CLASSIFICATION OF BULK SOLID

A bulk solid can be classified by its properties.

1. SIZE

- Very fine - minus 100 mesh screen
- fine - 100 mesh to 1/8 inch
- granular - 1/8 inch to 1/4 inch
- lumpy - 1/4 or greater 1/2 inch
- Irregular - 1/2 inch

2. flowability

- very free flowing - angle of repose  $\leq 30^\circ$
- free flowing - " "  $35^\circ$
- sluggish - " "  $> 45^\circ$

3. ABRASIVENESS

- non abrasive
- mild abrasive
- very abrasive

4. Special characteristic

- non corrosive
- corrosive
- hygroscopic
- mildly corrosive

# CLASSIFICATION OF CONVEYORS-

Conveyors are mainly classified into following

- 1. SCREW conveyor
- 2. Belt conveyor
- 3. Vibrating conveyor
- 4. Bucket elevator
- 5. continuous flow conveyor
- 6. Pneumatic conveyor
- 7. Apron conveyor

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## Conveying of Bulk Solids:

Conveyor Selection: Selection of correct conveyor for a specific bulk material in a specific situation is complicated by large no. of inter-related factors that must be considered. Long standardized equipment design and complete engg. data is available for many common types of conveyors, where performance can be accurately predicted when they are used with materials having well known conveying characteristics.

Capacity req. is a prime factor in conveyor selection. Belt conveyors which can be manf. in a relatively large sizes to operate at high speeds, deliver large tonnages economically.

\* Length of travelling is definitely limited

for certain apps as <sup>your</sup> length of <sup>travelling</sup> alternatives <sup>is</sup> <sup>more</sup> <sup>narrower</sup>.

\* Lift can usually be handled most economically by vertical or inclined bucket elevators, but when lift and horizontal travel are combined, other conveyors should be considered. Conveyors that combine several directions of travel in a single unit are generally more expensive.

\* Material Characteristics: Both chemical and physical characteristics should be considered. Specially, flammability and lump size are also imp. Chemical effects (i.e. effect of acid on metal) may dictate structural material used in conveyor components. Corrosive mixtures or acids may be harmful to being conveyed and

enclosure of a conveyor:

\* Processing requirements can be met by some conveyors with little or no change in design. For ex: a continuous flow may be provide a desired looking of solids simply becoz it put a conveyed material into direct contact with heat conducting metals.

Initial cost of conveyor system is usually rated to life expectancy as well as to a flow rate chosen.

Comparative cost for conveyor system can be based only on a studies of specific problems.

For ex: Belt conveyors idlers & available in a range of qualities that may will make unit cost 3 times as much as cheapest.

\* Conveyors Drive's may account from 10-30% of total cost of conveyor system depending on specific jobs requirements.

Classification of conveyors & their types:

- (i) Screw Conveyors: (SC)
- (ii) Belt " (BC)
- (iii) Bucket " (BUC)
- (iv) Vibrating / Oscillating Conveyors: (VC)
- (v) Continuous flow " (CC)
- (vi) Air Pneumatic " (PC)

(v) SC: is most versatile conveyor. It consist of a helioid flight or a vertical flight (individual sections) supported into a tube form by a plate mounted on pipe shaft.

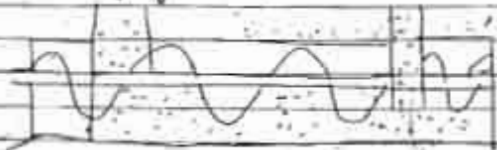
\* Simple design - easy maintenance

\* High power consumption

in a trough. Power to convey must be transmitted through a pipe or shaft. Screw conveyor capacity is generally limited to around 10,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/hr.

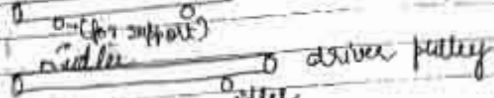
In addition to their conveying ability, screw conveying can be adapted to a wide variety of processing operations. Almost any degree of mixing can be achieved with screw conveyors.

Use of hollow screw or pipes for circulating hot or cold fluids allow a screw conveyor to be used for heating, cooling or drying operations.



② Belt conveyor. It is almost universal in application. It can travel for miles at a speed upto 1600 ft/min and handle upto 5000 tonnes/hr. It can

also operate over short dis at slow enough for manual feeding. Capacity of only a few ft<sup>3</sup> of driver pulley.



Belt conveyor drives

Belt conveyor slopes are limited to a max of abt 20° with those in the 18-20° are more common. Belt conveyor design begins with the study of material to be handled. Temp and chemical activity of the conveyed material play imp. role in the belt selection. For ex: natural rubber shld be avoided with oil materials. Spel rubber, cotton, asbestos fibre are available to meet varying degree of material temp and they are used whenever high temp exist. moisture may create per discharge conductive body of material may be used in the belt.

operating conditions which affect the belt conveyor design include climate, surroundings and hours of continuous service. Temp and humidity may dictate the total enclosure of the belt.

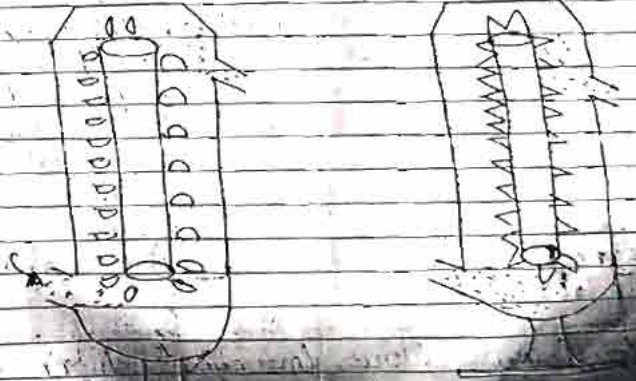
(5) Bucket Elevators: They are simplest & most dependable units for making vertical lifts, they are available in a wide range of capacities and may operate entirely in the open or be totally enclosed.

(i) Spaced bucket centrifugal discharge elevators: These elevators are most common mounted on a belt or chain, & buckets are spaced to prevent interference in loading or discharging. This type of elevator will handle almost any force flowing fine or small lump material such as grain, coal or dry chemicals. Speeds can be relatively high for fairly dense material.

(ii) Continuous bucket elevators: These elevators are generally used for large lump materials or for materials too difficult to handle with centrifugal

discharge units. buckets are closely spaced and discharge bucket spacing reduces a speed at which elevator must run to maintain the capacity comparable with space bucket elevator.

Super capacity continuous bucket elevator of this type is designed for high lifts and large lump material but handle high tonnages and are usually operated at an incline to improve loading and discharge conditions.



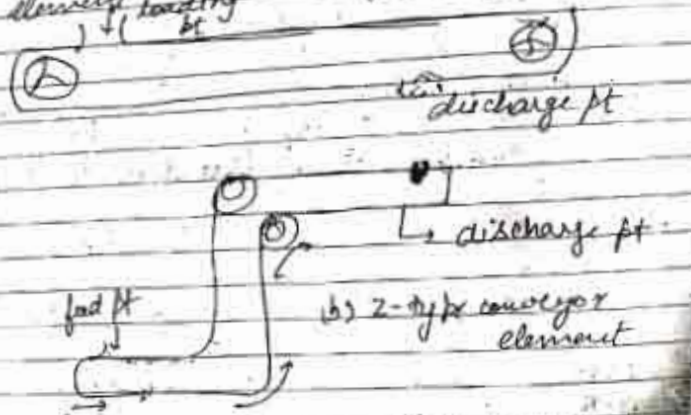
(i) Centrifugal discharge spaced bucket

④ Vibrating / Oscillating conveyors Most vibrating conveyors consist of springs supported horizontal pan vibrated by a direct connected electric - arc or an electro-magnet. A motion imparted to a material particles may vary by its purpose is to throw material upward and forward so that it will travel along a conveyor part.

A capacity of flow through vibrating conveyor is determined by magnitude of trough displacement, freq. of displacement, angle of trough, slope of trough. Each vibrating conveyor is designed to operate at specific freq. and do not perform well at other frequencies. ∴ they are not adapted to frequent capacity changes. Capacity of vibrating conveyor is extremely broad ranging from 1000 tons to 100 gms.

⑤ Continuous Flow conveyors A principle of continuous flow conveyor is that when a surface is pulled

transversely through a mass granular, powder or small material, it will fall along a mass - sec. of material. continuous flow conveyor is a n enclosed unit with a relatively high capacity per unit area of belt - sec. See conveyors under a chain supported conveying element loading



⑥ Continuous flow conveyors Capacity of continuous flow conveyor depends on the size of particles being conveyed and the req. for

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt} \cdot \rho V$$

fitting of conveying element within belt, continuous flow conveyor is normally an expensive unit. Continuous flow conveyor is widely used in a chemical industry in which there is a great demand of rehandling or rep. of many fed and discharge pt.

① Pneumatic Conveyors are not used extensively for the conveying of light and bulky material. In a pneumatic conveyor in this system material is transferred in suspension in a stream of air. There is a variety of system, but they all involve a pump or fan for producing a stream of air, a cyclone for sep. of larger particles and usually, but not necessarily, a bag filter for removing dust. Material is sucked up through a nozzle which may be fixed or movable. The stream of air with the solid in suspension goes

$$t = \frac{2V}{g}$$

to a cyclone separator, and down to the pump where the material carries dust that would be harmful if discharged into the air.

Storage of solids in protected and unprotected piles:

Open yard storage is probably best handled by belt conveyor when tonnages are large. Fig. below shows discharge arrangement possible for single, multiple or moving tripper discharge from belt conveyor. Most of these discharge methods are equally applicable for indoor storage. They may move along a length of belt forming a pile on one or both sides of belt.



Fig: Conveying piles at the end of belt

\* Simple design, easy maintenance  
 \* Easy to use

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 Perfect Writing Instruments

A storage vessel is considered as consisting of a bin and a hopper. The bin is a tall or relatively small in dia, a bin is not so tall and usually fair wide. A hopper is a small vessel with a sloping bottom for temporary storage before leading solid to a process.   
 Material flow characteristics of a storage vessel & mass flow in a vessel whenever any amount is withdrawn.

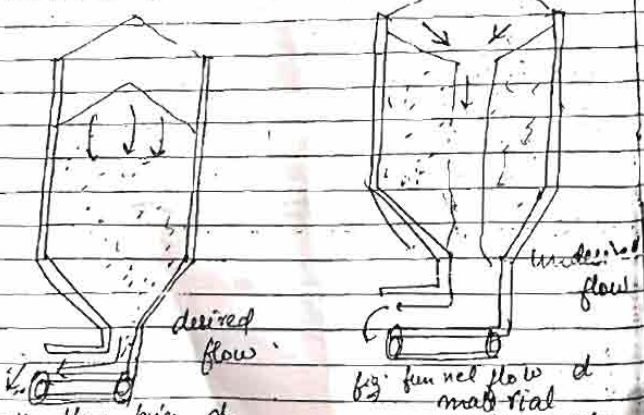


Fig: mass flow bin of material does not cause discharge segregation

Funnel flow which occurs when a portion of material flow when material is withdrawn. mass flow bin features a most sought after characteristic of storage vessel. Although a mass flow bin is obviously preferable to a funnel flow vessel, an additional investment generally req - must be justified. Degree of finish of a metal surface can have a large effect in determining whether a vessel will flow in mass or funnel flow.

Specifying Bulk Material for best flow & <sup>at source</sup>

Many flow problems can be eliminated by rigid, accurate and sensible specification of physical characteristics of material:-

(1) Particle size is one of the most common and controllable factors which affects the flowability of the granular material. In general, it may be assumed that larger particle size and freedom of material to flow from fines and more easily material will flow. Large particle size, uniformity of particle size and hard, smooth surface of pellets all contribute to good flow.

(2) Moisture content is another common and controllable factor and generally utilized to protect material from certain type of deterioration.

(3) High temp can cause serious flow problems in some materials or other soluble or low mp component

and it may be necessary to <sup>install</sup> cooling equipments. Gates are used to control flow from bins, hoppers and processing equipment to feeders or directly to conveyors

(4) Slide level controls are imp. for determining level of materials from bins and hoppers and can also protect conveyors from damage due to jamming

Flow-Assisting Devices and Feeders to Bins & situations in which mass flow bins cannot be installed for reasons such as space limitations and capacity requirement. A no. of flow assistors are available, & most desirable of which is use of a feeder to enlarge a flow channel of a funnel flow bin.

Vibrating Hoppers: are one of the most imp and versatile flow assistors. They are used to cause flow by breaking up material bridges & built up arches. i.e. d. granular



assign a case

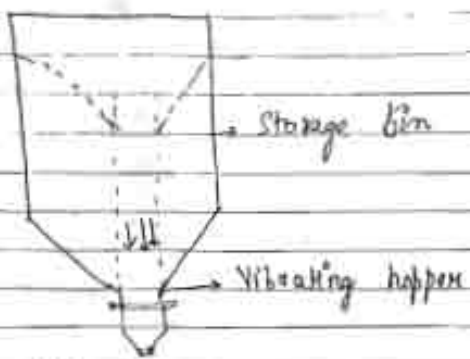


fig: Vibrating Hopper

which vibration is applied to flow channel and whirpool type which by providing a combined twist and lift to a material. Causes bridging to break.

① Screw feeders are also used to assist in bin unloading and in producing uniform feed.

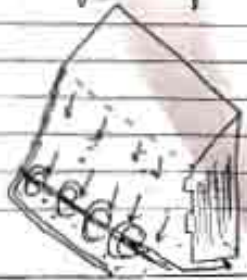


fig: screw feeder.

slot

① Belt / Apron feeders can also be used to give uniform feed from a bin but as care must be taken that dead spots are not produced in a flow channel above the feeder belt.

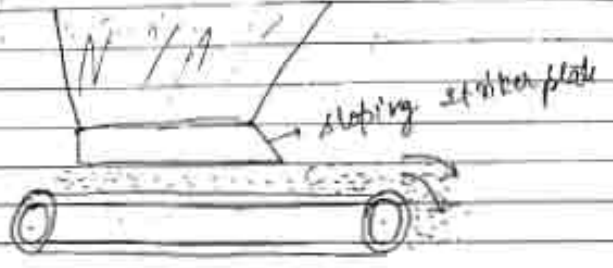


fig: sloping and strike plate in a belt of an apron feeder

① Capacities of dose feeders can be increased by tapering the outlet in a horizontal and vertical plane.

① Vibrating feeders also provide uniform flow along a slot opening of limited length. Here also the distance between feeder pan and hopper is important for feed direction as given in fig.

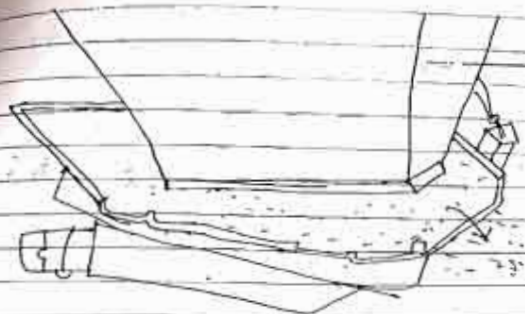


fig: vibrating feeder -  
← direction of motion

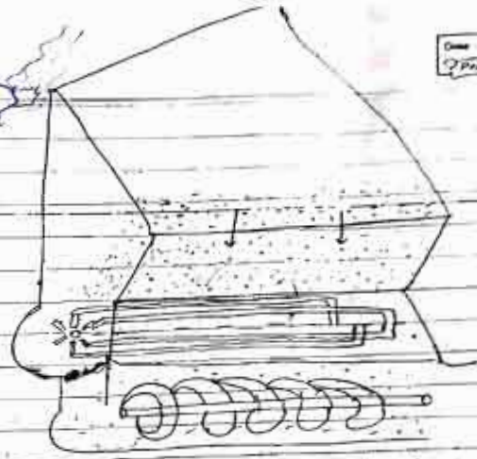


fig: star feeder. the collecting screw ensures uniform withdrawal.

Star feeders with a collecting screw conveyor provide highly uniform withdrawal along a slot opening. A vertical slot of at least one outlet width should be added above the feeder to ensure uniform withdrawal across the opening.

Put  
 A certain set of crushing rolls has a mass of 4000 kg dia. 1000 mm width of face. They are set so that the crushing surfaces are 1.25 cm apart at the narrowest pt. The manufacturer recommends that they may be run at 50-100 rpm. They are to crush a material having a specific gravity of 2.5 and the angle of nip is 30°. What is the max. permissible size of feed and discharge?