



News Release

CONVEYOR INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS REMAIN STRONG IN 2001

September 2001

NAPLES, FLORIDA — The Conveyor Equipment Manufacturers Association (CEMA) reports that through the second quarter, shipments were on pace to match 2000, which was a record year. A significant reduction in new orders indicates that the pace will not be maintained.

CEMA estimates an industry total of \$3.6 billion in shipments and \$2.8 billion in new orders for the first six months of 2001, according to Fred Sytsma, CEMA President, who announced the results during the Association's recent fall meeting in Chicago, Illinois. A downturn in order volume occurred in the second quarter and has continued into the third quarter. The executives representing CEMA member companies who attended the fall meeting were uncertain as to when there will be an upturn.

Billed sales for five of the seven unit handling conveyor categories (Unit Handling-Light to Medium, Unit Handling-Heavy Duty, Trolley-Light to Medium, Unit Components, and Conveyor Chain) increased from last year's comparable period. Trolley Conveyor-Light to Medium shipments for the first 6 months were up 82%, followed by unit components shipments up 13% from the 2000 six-month period. Showing an increase in bookings was the conveyor chain category with a rise of 7%.

Bulk accessories shipments improved 15%; however, overall bulk handling category shipments slipped 7% for the period.

Founded in 1933, CEMA is the trade association of leading North American conveyor equipment manufacturers. CEMA tracks seven classes of unit handling equipment and five classes of bulk handling equipment.

For further information on CEMA or its member companies, or to order safety labels or technical information, visit our web site at <http://www.cemanet.org>.

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