



# Conveyor Equipment Manufacturers Association

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NEWS RELEASE

## CONVEYOR INDUSTRY LOOKS FOR RECOVERY IN 2003

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NAPLES, FLORIDA – The Conveyor Equipment Manufacturers Association (CEMA) reports that through the second quarter, booked and billed sales remained down year over year for the conveyor industry as they were for most industries in early 2002. Booked sales are estimated at \$2.2 billion, and shipments are estimated at \$2.6 billion through the second quarter. Shipments outpaced booked orders by 14%, which is less than the 20% reported for the previous year according to Lee Schomberg, CEMA President, who announced the results at the Association's fall meeting in Chicago in September.

While bookings for tow conveyors increased significantly, bookings and shipments in all unit categories (unit handling conveyors-light to medium, unit handling conveyors-heavy duty, trolley-light duty, trolley-heavy duty, tow conveyors, unit components and conveyor chain) were down on average 38% and 35% respectively for the same period year over year.

Bookings and shipments for bulk conveyor accessories continued to increase by 39% and 34% respectively over the same period in 2001, and bookings for bulk systems saw an increase of 48%. Bookings for screw conveyor and bulk components were down only slightly. Billings for screw conveyors stayed about the same through the second quarter as they were in 2001. Billings for bulk components were down slightly, but billings for bulk systems and bulk equipment were down 45% on average.

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

The executives representing CEMA member companies who attended the fall meeting were optimistic that a recovery in the conveyor industry would occur in 2003.

CEMA also makes available to both member and nonmember companies, safety labels for all types of conveyor equipment as well as useful technical information and manuals. 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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