When it comes to maintaining conveyor belt life, the type of take-up used can help extend its life. Over time due to normal wear, heat fluctuations and over-loading a conveyor’s belting can be stretched. Having the wrong take-up can maximize the wear and shorten the life of not only the belting but all drive components. Having a loose belt can cause damage just as having an overly tight belt can cause added wear to the belt components.

Standard Tail End Take-up
A Standard Tail end Take-up that is located at the infeed consists of a bearing resting on a slide bar. Connected to the bearing is the Take-up screw. The tension on the belt is controlled by tightening or loosening the Take-up screw. This should be checked regularly based on different volumes of material being conveyed, fluctuation in heat and normal wear on belting. The downside of this type of Take-up comes when the tail end of the conveyor is not easily accessible or is located somewhere inaccessible.

Standard Head End Take-up
A Standard Head end Take-up that is located at the discharge of the conveyor consists of a bearing resting on a slide bar. Connected to the bearing is the Take-up screw. The head end Take-up being very similar to the standard tail end take-up adds the ability to move the take-up location to the discharge end of a conveyor, this is helpful when the tail end of a conveyor is located somewhere inaccessible.

Spring Loaded Take-up
A spring loaded Take-up is located on the Infeed (Tail End) of a conveyor and utilizes a spring to counteract the change in tension a belt can be subject to. Using a spring Take-up will keep a consistent tension on the belt and automatically adjust during the life of the belting. This option is used when both the Infeed and discharge ends are inaccessible for maintenance. Due to the constant movement the spring will wear over time and need replaced. When extreme temperatures and extreme loading is part of the parameters a spring Take-up can be compromised.

Air Controlled Take-up
An Air Take-up is located on the infeed (Tail End) of a conveyor and utilizes an Air cylinder to counteract the change in tension a belt can be subject to. Using an Air Take-up will keep a consistent tension on the belt and automatically adjust during the life of the belting. This option is used when both the Infeed and discharge ends are inaccessible for maintenance. The Air Take-up does require more room and the availability of shop air that meets the required psi.