To revive export of Alaskan steam coal to Korea and other export markets, Alaska Railroad Corporation increased the shiploading rate at the company’s 22 year old Seward Loading Facility on Resurrection Bay, Alaska.

Funded by a $9.5 million Federal Railroad Administration grant, ARRC acquired and upgraded the Seward facility to decrease operating costs and boost coal exports. $1.24 million of the grant was earmarked for inspections, repairs, and improvements. Usibelli Coal began shipping steam coal from its Healy, Alaska mine to the Honam Electric Power Generating Plant in South Korea in 1984, delivering 12 million tons of coal during that period. Phase One of the Seward conveyor upgrades was completed in 2005 enabling UCM to ship 400,000 tons per year to the Honam Plant using a bottom dump train unloader, bucket wheel stacker reclaimer and shiploader. Port throughput is 3 MTPY.

Restricted space on the shiploader boom and harsh operating conditions (only 600 miles south of the Arctic Circle) prompted engineers to specify a Rulmeca Motorized Pulley to drive the shuttle conveyor. Since the Motorized Pulley has a “narrow footprint” of 24 inch diameter and 47 inch face width, only minor changes were required to remove the old pulley and pillow blocks and exposed motor/gearbox system to accommodate the new drive.

For more information contact:
Mike Gawinski, Rulmeca Corporation
6508-B Windmill Way, Wilmington, NC 28405
phone: 910-794-9294, fax: 910-794-9296
email: mgawinski@rulmecacorp.com
www.rulmecacorp.com/cp