



GatesFacts™ Technical Information Library  
Gates Compass™ Power Transmission CD-ROM version 1.2

The Gates Rubber Company  
Denver, Colorado USA



---

## V-FLAT BELT DRIVES

There has always been a concern regarding the use of an even, rather than odd number of belts on a v-flat drive. The reason stems from the fact that most flat pulleys are crowned. With an odd number of v-belts on a drive the center belt would have to ride directly on the crown and it just does not want to stay there. It tends to move from side to side interfering with the adjoining belts. This can cause belt instability problems. The drive designer should try to use an even number of belts.

Better yet, consider using a Power Band® belt drive which will eliminate this potential stability problem with either odd or even number of strands.