

VARIABLE WIDTH CONVEYOR

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Abstract

A conveyor (10) with a variable width (28) between two tracks (12,14) and a method (60) for providing such a conveyor (10) are disclosed. A carrier member (18) is slidably mounted to a guide (16). Guide (16) is coupled to tracks (12,14) for movement of carrier member (18) in a transverse direction (20) relative to a conveying direction (22) of conveyor (10). Track (12) mounts to two track mounting members (30,32) integrally with sides of carrier member (18). Set screws (42) mounted to track mounting members (30,32) coact with guide members (36) that are positioned against guide tracks (38,40) of guide (16). Adjusting guide members (36) using set screws (42) varies contact pressure of guide members against guide tracks (38,40). This thereby aligns track (12) relative to track (14). When aligned, track (12) is positioned substantially parallel to track (14) for adjustments to width (28).

FIG. 3 accompanies this abstract.

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