



thyssenkrupp

Insights _Polysius



Inspection from the air - drone operation in the cement plant

Drones are increasingly used in the cement industry for plant inspections. Their sophisticated technology allows them to work very economically and efficiently. Thanks to their range and flexibility, they can fly over large areas in a short time, even reaching areas that are difficult or impossible for humans to access. The advantages are obvious: the time required for an inspection is reduced, industrial climbers or expensive scaffolding are not needed, and the safety risk for the inspection teams is minimized - all cost benefits for the plant operator.

Service experts specializing in drone inspections first plan the flight route on the computer, and special software calculates the exact flight path. The latest generation of drones can document the condition of a plant both from the outside and the inside. In the cement sector thyssenkrupp uses drones from various manufacturers.

These drones are equipped with RGB and thermal imaging camera. They have a powerful zoom and provide high-resolution image material. The customer then receives the captured data as raw images for further processing. Upon request, the acquired data can be immediately evaluated by our plant experts.

“By using drones, the condition of a plant and possible damage can be precisely documented. Thanks to our many years of expertise in the cement industry, we work out the best possible solution for our customers very quickly.”

Ansgar Päsche, Senior Service Engineer

The service specialists at thyssenkrupp are working intensively to be able to offer fully automated drone inspections in cement plants. In principle, this involves a drone flying independently at certain intervals along a predefined route without a direct operator. Thanks to the latest technology and appropriate safety equipment (emergency landing pads / parachutes / redundant electronics), this is already technically possible and legally permissible today.





The bottom line: For cement plant operators, the use of drones for plant inspections offers numerous advantages. Possible damage can be detected at an early stage and quickly repaired. This reduces downtimes and the resulting costs for production losses. The use of drones increases occupational safety and does not require any complex and cost-intensive preparatory work. Overall, inspection by drone is an important component in the digitization of a cement plant.
