

# PMP NEWS

PMP News ~ Volume 2 Number 3 ~ November 2000 ~ An Amada Cutting Technologies Publication

## Serving You Better!



**Toshi Ichimura,  
President,  
Amada Cutting  
Technologies,  
Inc.**

We have a lot to report to you with this latest issue of *PMP News*! Our Service Department is initiating a lot of positive changes that will facilitate even better customer service. These include equipping our technicians with personal digital assistants (PDAs) so they can obtain important data instantly. We're also implementing state-of-the-art call routing technology so incoming calls can be transferred to technicians out in the field.

Our Parts Department has expanded too. We're developing more parts kits so our PMP customers can order rebuilt kits for cylinders and other related assemblies requiring period maintenance.

Amada has also unveiled a number of new products that are featured in this issue. Our HK700CNC band saw is a major breakthrough in metal-cutting technology. And our Shark Series of semi-automatic band saw machines are designed for high-speed cutting and longer blade life.

Our newsletter is intended to provide our PMP customers with useful and informative news. As always, I encourage you to send us any story ideas — e-mail them to [info@amadabandsaw.com](mailto:info@amadabandsaw.com).

## Shark Series Unveiled

ACT recently rolled out the Shark Series of semi-automatic band saw machines.

"The Shark band saw machines feature a unique hydraulic power feed system that assures high-speed cutting and longer blade life," said Toshi Ichimura, president of ACT.

Three band saw machines comprise the Shark Series:

**Shark 260** – Has a miter capability to 60 degrees. It features a hydraulic transducer to visualize band tensioning, steel base with pull out coolant tank, vice with fast positioning device, and a hydraulic power feed system. The Shark 260 is also designed for easy handling by forklift. Blade size is 1" x 9'0", blade speed is 118/237 fpm. Machine dimensions are 27.6" x 68" x 72"; weight is 814 lbs.

**Shark 280** – Features complete protection of the band on the rear side and under the band guides and a sliding vice on the X-axis for repositioning during miter cutting. It has a steel base with a wide drawer tank for the coolant and an electric pump for band lubrication. The Shark 280 has a hydraulic feed system and a steel cut-plate that can be replaced. Blade size is 1" x 9'8", blade speed is 118/237 fpm. Machine dimensions are 27.6" x 77.2" x 72"; weight is 1,000 lbs.

**Shark 330H** – Includes the hydraulic transducer and power feed system, a wide bed to support stock, and a coolant nozzle to clean work surfaces. It also offers total guarding of the band from the rear and under the band guides. Blade size is 1" x 10'10", blade speed is 132/264 fpm. Machine dimensions are 46.6" x 67" x 70.9"; weight is 1,540 lbs.

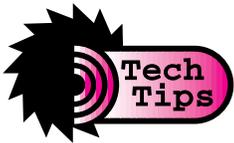
A number of optional features are also available for any of the models. These include:

- Rear roller table
- Inverter for SFPM
- Back gauge
- Stock support stand
- Front roller table with stopper

For more information on the Shark Series, call Amada Cutting Technologies, Inc. at (800) 877-4729 or log on to <http://www.amadabandsaw.com>.



**Shark 330HH**



**Situation:** After depressing the blade run push button, the machine blade starts but only runs for a few seconds.

**Solution:** For models HA250W, HA16, HA400W, HA500, VM1200, VM2500 and most HA model machines — if this happens, the most common problem is a faulty proximity switch. Here's what you do:

Make sure the proximity switch is properly adjusted. The gap between the sensor and tabs should be 0.040. Once you have done this, locate the timer marked 'AMD' and remove it. Then install a jumper wire between the numbered wires (refer to the electrical diagram corresponding to the machine model) to bypass the close contact. If this solves the problem, replace the proximity switch or the AMD timer.

Note: Please make sure that all components are installed in accordance with the electrical diagram to avoid damage.

For HFA machines (except CNC series) an error #E-113 will occur. When this happens, follow these steps: 1) Read the CPU board number; 2) If the CPU board number is M0013A, locate three dip switch banks positioned on the top left corner of the board. Locate dip switch bank #3, switch #7 and turn it to ON. This will bypass the motion detector. 3) If CPU board number is C0102B, locate three dip switch banks positioned on the top left corner of the board. Locate dip switch #3, switch #7 and turn it to ON. This will bypass the motion detector. 4) If CPU board number is C0116A, locate the dip switch bank, find switch #7, and turn it to ON. This bypasses the motion detector. ⚙

## ACT at IMTS



ACT exhibited four machines at last September's IMTS (International Manufacturing Technology Show), held at McCormick Place in Chicago. These included the new HK700P, designed to handle plate materials; the new CM75AN-CNC, featuring a new high production carbide circular saw; the HFA400W and HA250W. ⚙

# Introducing the HK700CNC

ACT has introduced the Amada HK700CNC Band Saw.

"The HK700CNC is the world's first CNC (patented) controlled double column band saw," said Toshi Ichimura, president of ACT. "It features an auto-positioning center guide arm which assures high cutting rate and accuracy because of the minimum guide span. This also produces the highest beam strength to the blade."

Standard accessories include:

- CNC cutting control
- Shuttle front vise, 9.5" stroke up to 999" (one index at a time)
- NC controlled guide arm for left and center
- NC controlled miter swivel
- Hydraulic lift roller

The HK700CNC has a number of optional accessories available:

- Vertical clamp
- Laser marking
- Auto origin and trim cut (factory option)
- NC measuring and auto feed device (factory option)
- The HK700CNC features a 5-HP saw blade motor and 2-HP hydraulic motor. Maximum load capacity is 6,600 lbs.; machine weight is 7,700 lbs.

For more information on the HK700CNC, call Amada Cutting Technologies, Inc. at (800) 877-4729 or log on to <http://www.amadabandsaw.com>. ⚙

## Spotlight: Larry Tooley



PMP Engineer Larry Tooley recently got a call from Streetsboro, OH-based Crucible Steel. The company's HA250 was down and it was im-

perative to get the machine operational as soon as possible. Larry immediately drove to the client, quickly diagnosed the problem as a blown fuse, and had the HA250 working within minutes. His 'house call' saved the company a day of productivity.

Larry loves nothing better than to help customers like Crucible. Based in Cleveland, his territory comprises the entire Ohio Valley. His duties include everything from inspecting band saws to checking fluid levels, band speed and blade tensions, guide wear, blade angles, and routine maintenance.

A native of Ohio, Larry attended Cleveland State University. He's married and the father of one boy and girl. ⚙

## Meet Maria & Lina!

Maria Manzo, engineering administrative assistant, and Lina Castorena, engineering receptionist, are our newest additions to the Engineer-



ing Department. Maria joined ACT in 1996 as a Human Resources assistant and was transferred to her current position last March. Some of her new duties include PMP and service report entries, PMP agreement maintenance, commission report maintenance, analysis report updates, miscellaneous administrative duties, and customer service.

Lina joined ACT in 1999 as office assistant/receptionist and was transferred to her current position in September. She is responsible for answering and dispatching service calls, distributing messages, and paging engineers when needed. ⚙



## Band Saws Boost Productivity for Steel Cutting Shop

It wasn't too long ago that C&J Engineering had to work at warp speed to cut 2,500 parts in one week. Now it only takes them a few hours.

The Warren, MI-based steel cutting shop was established in 1990. Mary Jovanovski, along with her two sons Tom and Steve took over the business in 1996, when her husband passed away.

C&J Engineering specializes in high-volume, high-speed projects. But it wasn't until the company selected the CM100 carbide circular saw from Amada (it also looked at machines from other companies such as Castle and HEM) that the company was able to tackle projects requiring extended production runs.



The CM100 uses a disposable circular carbide blade instead of a conventional band saw blade. It can cut all kinds of materials five to 10 times faster and at the lowest cost per square inch of metal removal. The CM100 also leaves a clean surface finish that seldom requires any secondary operations.

"We do a lot of work for forging and fabricating companies, steel mills and automotive companies in the U.S. and Canada," said Tom. "We cut steel racks for the Big Three auto firms, parts for large hot and cold forging houses, aircraft parts, screw machine houses, steel brokers, even specialized tank parts for the Defense Department."

C&J Engineering now has five CM100 band saw machines, used to cut primarily carbon steels ranging from 1010 to 1078. The company operates six days a week and only shuts down between 1 AM to 6 AM and on Sundays. Tom said there are a number of CM100 features that are especially useful. A special pressured misting system helps to provide unusually long blade life without resharpening. With a width of only 0.078", the CM100 carbide-tipped blades provide maximum cutting life up to 100,000 square inches with minimal kerf loss. The CM100 also uses an automated inclined loading system allowing the saw to run unattended for hours at a time as well as saw chip separa-

tion from the finished material, leaving the parts clean and burr free.

The CM100 has also dramatically increased productivity. The most striking example recently occurred when a large automotive forging house called C&J Engineering late Friday afternoon.

"They needed 8,000 pieces of three inch diameter 5120 grade by Monday morning but said they also couldn't deliver the materials to us until Saturday morning," Tom said. "At the time we only had two CM100s but I was confident we would get the job done."

The production run was completed on Saturday afternoon.

"There were no defects, we only needed one operator to handle the entire job, and also didn't have to pay double-time for having someone work on a Sunday," he said.

The company now handles several projects up to five million parts "and the operators don't even break a sweat," Tom said. "We're able to maintain quality and keep our prices competitive."

He added that with the CM100, C&J can also cut one bar at a time.

"All the operator has to do is set the material down and the machine does all the work. We can cut to weight or to length and achieve tolerances of +/- .005". We're also getting about 70,000 square inches per blade."

The CM100 has enabled C&J Engineering to reduce necessary floor space. The company just moved into a new 150,000 square foot building in Warren with four other firms and has formed a strategic alliance that Tom said is analogous to a 'mini-mall of steel processing,' called Wall Bar.

"We'll be the cutting outfit, another company does turning/burnishing/straightening/NDT testing, one does storage and shipping, and a fourth firm will handle all heat treating needs," Tom said. "But because of the CM100's design, we can fit 11 machines into 18,000 square feet that opens up more space for other machinery. If you have a high volume, round bar job, nothing beats the CM100." ⚙



## New Literature Available

Amada has just introduced three new four-color brochures that are now available:

**Large Band Saw Series** — Features detailed photos of the 700, 1000, 1300, 1600 and 2000 series of band saws. There is a comprehensive description of each model along with write-ups describing key features and options. The brochure also includes a 'Measurements & Specifications' chart with precise specs for everything from cutting capacity to table height.

**VM Series** — Contains full product descriptions for the VM420, 1200, 2500, 3800, TVM7616 and TVM1560 series. The brochure also depicts detailed schematics for each series, a Specifications chart and an Accessories chart.

**Band Saw Blade Series** — Features a colorful 'Blade Type Selection Guide,' a four-color foldout providing all the information you'll need to select the proper blade type for your Amada band saw. The brochure also contains a 'Blade Pitch Selection Guide.'

Want copies of the new literature? Just call (800) 877-4729. ⚙

## Parts Dept. Expands

The Parts Department is increasing its customer service staff to handle the extra demand for parts and the addition of the Shark series of band saws.

Pete Bouras is returning to the department after serving with the Preventive Maintenance Program. At ACT, Pete's familiarity with parts and his first-hand experience with many of our customers as a PMP coordinator will be a valuable asset. In addition to everyday tasks, Pete will be developing new parts kits to better serve our customers. ⚙

# High Tech Changes Coming to Service Dept.

National Service Supervisor R.G. Gonzalez and National Service Assistant Manager Jeff Hammer report that the Service Department will soon be initiating a number of major high tech changes that will help improve customer service.

"Next month we're debuting 'FIELD PRO,' a software program that closely monitors all Service Department and PMP activities and provides real-time information that will be very useful to our technicians in the field," R.G. said. "They'll be also be able to instantly send job requests."

Jeff added that personal digital assistants (PDAs), portable handheld devices, will be supplied to all technicians so they can access FIELD PRO.

Another Service Department change is improved telecommunications. State-of-the-art call routing technology has been implemented that can transfer incoming calls to cell phones, pagers and PDAs.

"This enables us to be accessible at all times and reinforces our commitment to our PMP customers," R.G. said. ☼

# Amada Introduces CM Series

Amada's new CM Series of circular saws represent some major changes in metal-cutting technologies.



They use a disposable circular carbide blade instead of a conventional band saw blade. The CM Series cuts all kinds of materials five to ten times faster than a conventional band saw, yet leaves a clean surface finish that seldom requires a secondary operation.

The CM Series comprises four models — CM65AN, CM75AN-CNC, CM100AN, CM150AN. Key features for all four models include:

- Inclined magazine for automatic material loading.
- Servo motor for precise material indexing.
- Vibration-free saw spindle mechanism.
- Oil-mist coolant system.
- Wear-resistant vise system.
- Automatic trim cut sorting.
- Ball screw feed mechanism for smooth cuts and extended blade life (CM100AN and CM150AN).

For more information, contact ACT at (800) 877-4729. ☼

## AMADA TRADE SHOWS

December 2000 to March 2001

### ORLANDO 2001

Advanced Productivity Exposition  
January 16-18, 2000  
Orange County Convention Center  
Orlando, Florida

### SOUTH-TEC GREENVILLE

Advanced Productivity Exposition  
February 20-22, 2000  
Palmetto Expo Center  
Greenville, SC

### WESTEC' 2001

Advanced Productivity Exposition  
March 26-29, 2000  
Los Angeles Convention Center  
Los Angeles, CA

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## F.O.C.U.S.

Saw Service & Supply, Inc. (<http://www.sawservicesupply.com>) has worked with Amada for more than 20 years. The Cleveland, OH company is an Amada distributor and an industrial cutting tool house.

The company was established in 1957 and now has 53 employees. Robert Belock serves as president; his brother Ron is vice president

(their father started the business).

"We do more than \$1 million a year with Amada," Belock said. "We rep all Amada band saws and blades. We have been hugely successful in selling Amada products because they are so innovative and are always coming out with new products that provide value-added features and services to our customers."

Saw Service & Supply has five service people that work closely Amada's PMP engineers and technicians.

"We complement each other well," Belock said. "We call them when our customers need PMP service, and they let us know if a customer requires any extra service that we generally handle. This often leads to new Amada sales for us too."

\*Editor's Note: Each issue of PMP News features an ACT distributor. If you would like your company to be considered, please e-mail us at [info@amadabandsaw.com](mailto:info@amadabandsaw.com) or send a fax to (714) 670-2017. ☼