Power Curbers Inc., Volume 17, Issue 2

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POWER CURBER PROFILES

We focus on customers

THE C IS FOR CENTER POUR

Malvick Constructions of Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia, poured this 6.5-foot path (2 m) in Orange, Australia, located in central New South Wales, with the Power Curber 5700-C.

The mold is mounted beneath the machine for the pour, with the trimmer and auger conveyor removed.

Malvick Constructions is owned by Malcolm and Vickie Bennett.

Aran International is Power Curbers’ dealer in Australia and New Zealand. Contact Shane Dunstan at 61.7.3206.1792 or shane@aran.com.au

www.powercurbers.com
For Urban Obstacles, Versatile 5700-C Pays Off

Road builder Domti Engineering & Construction in Bolton, Ontario, works in urban centers, such as downtown Toronto.

His Power Curber machines, with their easy maneuverability, are great for the environment in which we use them, says John Sansalone, owner of the company and operator of the curb equipment. “We have to do the work in stages. 

“In the downtown areas, there are a lot of obstacles. Every road is done differently,” John says. “The versatility of the machine, especially the hydraulics (shifting vertically and horizontally) is what attracted me to the machine.”

Owning a Power Curber for the last 5 years also has given Domti the flexibility to take on a wider variety of jobs, says John. “Slipform opened up a much broader field of prospective jobs.”

John particularly likes the single-lane pour, an option on the 5700-SUPER-B and standard on his new 5700-C. This allows the operator to line up the concrete truck directly in front of the machine for pouring in smaller, high-traffic volume areas such as city streets. “That has come in very handy,” he says, for reducing traffic disruption.

Locating the steps in back of the machine on the 5700-C is also an improvement, John says. “It makes it much easier to get off and on” in his urban work environment.

“The new machine is more accessible. The instrumentation seems more intuitive,” he says. “The thought and time and input in the machine (design) does show.” John says. “I like the screen (on the operator’s panel) that shows the diagram of the machine and the alignment of the front track. It’s very well designed.”

John initially chose a Power Curber over the competition because of the auger conveyor. “It was not based on experience but on analyzing the mechanics of it,” he says. “We’ve done concrete a long time. The idea of the auger conveyor works better than the belt. With the concrete contained in the auger, it just doesn’t dry up as quickly.”

He has a 20-year relationship with Jeff MacDonald and Amaco Equipment, dealer in Ontario. “Amaco is very good at responding quickly,” John says.

Jeff MacDonald, P. Eng., at Amaco Equipment can be reached at 905-670-3440; jmmacdonald@yahoo.com; www.amacocei.com

William Irving has operated both a Power Curber and a competitive machine for Virginia Site Concepts in Richmond, VA. The competitive machine is now gone, and Virginia Site Concepts runs two Power Curbers

“We went with Power Curbers because of the islands,” says William. “We picked up a job with a sports complex with 50 islands.” Islands had been giving the curb crew trouble with the competitive machine.

“With the (competitive machine), the only thing we were doing was pouring the straight section, or forming by hand,” William says. “The contractors didn’t like the islands formed by hand because we were putting in plates every 10 feet to hold the islands together. If you bump a curb with a plate in it, you could just knock it over.” Unlike joints cut in slipformed curb, the plates separate the curb completely.

The Power Curbers dealer in Virginia, Southern Equipment Service, demonstrated the Power Curber’s radius turning capability for the crew, and that was a new beginning for radius work.

The crew began taking pictures of the islands that they slipformed with the Power Curber and faxing the pictures to customers, saying, “This is what we can do now.”

There were advantages to the Power Curber, in addition to jobs with islands in them. “We had had problems trimming and pouring at the same time” with the competitive machine, William says. “The machine just didn’t have the hydraulic power. Now if it’s within 1, 2 or 3 inches, I don’t have to pre-trim. It saves fuel and time.”

It was also a hassle changing the mold, he says. The Power Curber’s Quick Connect Mold Changing Option changed that. “You just go in and set the machine down on the mold, let out the Quick Connect, pick it up, and you’re done,” says William.

“Those little things on the Power Curber speeded up the process,” he says.
Focusing on the Customer’s Need
Stuck in the mud in Memphis, Power Curbers gets him out!

Chris Handy of Custom Curb and Edging in Arlington, TN, couldn’t believe it when he heard that Power Curbers was re-engineering the 5700-SUPER-B. He’s a long-time Power Curber customer, owning 4 machines and keeping 2 of them going all the time, hop-scotching from job to job.

He thought the SUPER-B was as good as it gets. “The SUPER-B was such a success, I thought. Why mess with it? It couldn’t do anything but go downhill.”

“I knew we would be getting a new machine, and I was real reluctant when they said they were redesigning.”

He bought the 5700-C and now sings its praises as well. “I’m real happy with all the improvements,” he says. “It’s been a fabulous machine. It’s so much cooler, the way it draws air away from the operator.”

Chris has lobbied for the Cummins engine and sees it as a welcome addition. “It’s easier to get parts and service. It’s just a more common engine,” he says.

Chris says the power of the trimmer is amazing. He recently had an opportunity to look at the control panel on a competitive machine. “The Power Curber is laid out so much better,” he says. “It’s just a better design.”

He says that his curb foreman was recently commenting on how much stronger the hydraulics are in the newer machines. “It’s much stronger steering in our soft soil” around Memphis, he says.

Chris appreciates the intensive focus on customers that is Power Curbers’ philosophy. The business is built around developing the product that customers want and always being in partnership with the customer as his “curb expert.”

That focus shows in every new redesign. Engineers listen to customers’ needs.

As an example, engineers worked with Chris on his 5700-C order to customize the track size. His machine has 16-inch tracks (40.6cm) on the front and left-rear crawlers. The right-rear crawler is the standard 12-inch width (30.4cm), allowing him to still transport the machine at legal highway width.

The wider crawlers keep the machine from bogging down in the soft soil in the Memphis area.

In this part of the country, getting stuck is a regular thing,” he adds. “We don’t build on gravel. It’s soil cement. The curb goes in front and it outlines the road. We’re pouring on silty clay.” The wider track has made a lot of difference and increased the production, Chris says.

“And it has not hurt us on our turning radius,” he adds. “We can pour 3-foot radius (.9m) all day long.”

The Power Curber is as good as it gets. It’s just a better design.

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Lt. Governor Mike Parson of Missouri, September 2019 Big Tractors proved that he can “live in the moment” by taking a turn driving burros in Africa. Needless to say, the slipforming work was going well, diverting Guy’s attention to the burros. If you need slip-forming – or burro – advice, Guy can be reached at guytops@powercurbers.com; telephone: 32.475.664666.

He sells and services Power Curber equipment in Europe and Africa.

Sometimes You Just Have to Take a Break . . .

Custom Curb & Edging’s fleet of Power Curbers … with winter maintenance behind them, they’re ready to tackle a new season.
Ag Application

Slipforming Feed Lots in Australia

Contractor Laurie Lott and his son, Damien, are building a reputation for slipforming feed lots for farms in southeastern areas of Victoria, near Melbourne, Australia.

Here, they are slipforming 1,640 feet (500m) of feed trough with their 5700-SUPER-B. The Lotts plan to introduce concrete pavement in front of the feed lots, similar to agricultural applications in the U.S.

Shane Dunstan of the Aran Group is Power Curbers/Power Pavers dealer in Australian and New Zealand. He can be reached at 61.7.3206.3782 or shane@aran.com.au

Take Advantage of 2008 Equipment Tax Incentives

The federal government’s new tax incentives can mean big tax savings for 2008 for equipment buyers. The Economic Stimulus Act may allow you to depreciate more than half the cost of a new 5700-C in 2008.

Here’s how the temporary depreciation bonus works, according to information provided by the Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) and the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM):

- Companies that buy new equipment in 2008 can depreciate 50% of the cost in the first year, plus 20% of the remaining basis in the equipment that would ordinarily be depreciable under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS).
- For a $100,000 piece of equipment with a 5-year MACRS life, the first year depreciation under the ESA would be $60,000: $50,000 depreciation bonus, plus 20% of the remaining $50,000 in basis.

More information is available at www.depreciationbonus.org. Power Curbers also recommends that you seek advice from your accountant.

See Us At

- ConExpo Russia, Sept. 15-18, 2008, Crocus Expo Center, Moscow
- World of Concrete 2009, Feb. 3-6, 2009, Las Vegas Convention Centre, Central Hall Booth 5814
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A Smooth Wall in Ireland

ASCON Civil Engineering & Building in County Kildare, Ireland, slipformed 25 miles (40 km) of center barrier in County West Meath with the 5700-C. The wall is 35 inches (900 mm) tall. Shane Harte is machine operator. Stephen Walsh, mechanic for ASCON, finds the 5700-C easy to maintain with the positioning of filters, pumps, the gear box, radiator, and hydraulics.

Bryan Hebble-Thwaite of PC Slipform/Concrete Equipment Ltd. is Power Curbers’ dealer in Ireland and the United Kingdom. He can be reached at 44.77.85.133.29 or bryan@powercurbers.co.uk