



Recipient, E-Award for Excellence in Exports, US Department of Commerce

# POWER CURBER PROFILES

Our Commitment Shows

## Where Is The Stringline?



**'The machine performed great, the design is well thought out. It is a great fit for Thorncrete.'**

Above: 5700-C, with Topcon Millimeter GPS controls, pouring without stringline in Toronto. Inset: Smooth and straight, and no stringline to set and take down.


**T**horncrete Construction Ltd is the largest curb and gutter contractor in all of Ontario, Canada. Established in 1973, the company grew from a small family business with one machine to a major concrete player running five curb and gutter machines and employing 210 employees. Throughout the decades, Thorncrete relied on one manufacturer for their slip-form machines. In recent years, Thorncrete saw a need to change to become more productive and to take advantage of technological advancements in the slip-form industry. Specifically, reacting to demands of their customers, Thorncrete decided to begin pouring without a stringline.

Ross and John Ruscica, brothers, and owners of Thorncrete contacted Amaco Equipment, the local Power Curber dealer and began researching the Power Curber 5700-C equipped with Topcon Millimeter GPS and became the first Power Curber customer to pour without stringline using a Topcon system. "We chose the Power Curber 5700-C due to its compact design and ability to set up and maneuver easily on site", said Ross Ruscica.

With start-up support from Power Curbers, Amaco, and Topcon, the first pour went smoothly. After just a few days of pouring and becoming familiar with the machine and positioning of the GPS robots, Ross Ruscica commented, "The machine performed great, the design is well thought out. It is a great fit for Thorncrete."

Thorncrete began pouring with the 5700-C in June 2012 and used it daily throughout the summer and fall. After six months with the machine, Ross says "The 5700-C with GPS control has elevated Thorncrete from our local competitors since going stringless."

Making the leap into stringless technology is a big one for curb and gutter contractors. Ross has found that the accuracy of millimeter GPS is equal to a machine pouring with stringline. After more than 30 years with a competitor's machine, Ross and John are believers in Power Curbers.

"We are extremely happy with the support that Power Curbers and Amaco have given us. We recognize the need to change and move to a new technology, and Power Curbers was there and ready. We always knew they had a good machine, and coupled with their confidence in pouring stringless, we were confident to make the move with them. We've been very satisfied." 

## How Do They Do That?

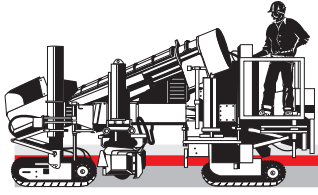
**W**hen working with a Topcon Millimeter GPS system on a Power Curber 5700-C, two Topcon PZM/C receivers are mounted on the 5700-C, one at the front and one at the rear. These receivers interpret the GPS satellites' signal along with the Topcon PZL1A Laser Zone transmitter signal and control both the machine's steering and elevation without using stringline.

Steering is controlled directly by the interaction between the Topcon M/CR3 receiver and the GPS satellites. For controlling elevation, Topcon's PZL1A laser transmitter sends a 30' high beam of light to the PZM/C receivers on the machine. Unlike a standard laser which sends out a narrow beam of light, the PZL1A sends out a 30' band of light. This allows the machine to travel over large grade changes.

Mounted at the operator's station is a Topcon GX 60 control box which receives the incoming data from the receivers and sends a signal to the 5700-C's digital controller to direct the machine.







# Radius Work? **No Problem!**

**C**harlie Ewing, equipment operator for Curbs Etc of Smyrna, DE, has seen it all in over 20 years of Power Curbers' machines. Specializing in pouring curb, Curbs Etc's range of work has included sidewalk, traffic separator, and ditches. Recently they tackled one of their most challenging jobs at the Dover (DE) Transit Center. The design-build project, lead by R.E. Pierson Construction Co. of Woodstown, NJ, with input from Curbs Etc., required placing a continuous series of serpentine 90-degree curb at the Transit Center's bus arrival terminal. The purpose of the curb placed with such a severe radius, was to allow buses entering the facility to pull to the curb, unload and load passengers without leaving the curb or re-positioning the bus, and to pull away in one motion. Using hydraulic ramps the buses enable passengers to step onto the adjacent platform, easing the loading and unloading process, and allowing the buses to depart without hitting the curb or backing out.

Charlie gladly took on the challenge with his 5700-C. The rear grade sensor never left the stringline and the machine didn't have to be repositioned throughout the pour. He and his crew poured radius after radius, in and out, right down the line stopping the machine only briefly. Pouring the 2,000' section with the machine saved days of expensive formwork and kept the project on schedule. By pouring the 20" high, 8" wide curb at such a speed, other contractors were able to move in quickly to pave the parking lot immediately following the curb pour.

Curbs Etc. is a diversified contractor pouring a mix of both DOT and private jobs. A recent convenience store parking lot presented Charlie with 2.5' foot radiuses which he turned smoothly and with "no problems." According to Charlie it was just another in a long line of accomplishments for Curbs Etc. and their Power Curber 5700-C. **PC**



*Multiple radii poured with 5700-C on bus terminal job site in Dover, DE.*

**“ He and his crew poured radius after radius, in and out, right down the line stopping the machine only briefly. ”**

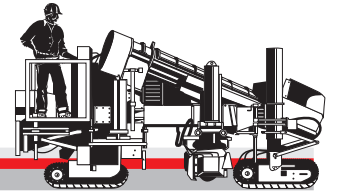


*Finished project, and a job well done.*



*Tight radii are all in a day's work with Curbs Etc's 5700-C.*





# Natale Concrete Construction Expands Business



Nick Natale's rebuilt 5700-Super-B is perfect for pouring in tight spaces.

**W**e hear about many interesting jobs our customers perform during the course of a year. We don't often however get a chance to report a story from as unique a place as the United States Coast Guard Academy. Founded in 1876 and located in New London, CT since 1910, the Academy's streets recently required major renovations. Like many rehab projects, the streets had to remain open for Academy traffic at all times. With only 300' (100m) sections open at a time, campus buildings crowding the streets, and both foot and vehicular traffic constantly passing, the job was a logistical nightmare and one few contractors would want to tackle.

A job as difficult as this one would be difficult for any curb professional, much less a contractor pouring his first job with a slip-form machine. Equipped with a reconditioned Power Curber 5700-Super-B, Nick Natale of Natale Concrete Construction took on the challenge and produced great results. He found the machine easy to operate and noted that its unobstructed visibility to the whole jobsite was critical in such a job. With limited space for the ready-mix trucks to operate and with the trucks having to keep the road clear, the 5700-

Super-B's auger conveyor with high capacity hopper let him pour more curb without a truck staying with the machine constantly as belt conveyors require. Nick



An unusual sight for the typical job site.

commented that "the ready mix trucks had to get out of the way often, but having plenty of concrete let me keep on pouring." Nick wasn't the only one impressed with how the machine handled the compact jobsite. One driver noted that with a competitive manufacturer's

**"The ready mix trucks had to get out of the way often, but having plenty of concrete let me keep on pouring."**

machine with which he'd worked, he couldn't have fit the machine and truck into some of the tight spaces.

As if the traffic and tight confines weren't enough, the 2,500' (800m) job required three different profiles – ribbon or header curb, 18" wide curb and gutter, and 24" rollover/mountable curb. Nick quickly found out why the machine came equipped with a Quick Connect mold mount and put it to good use frequently changing molds as he moved from section to section further saving time.

The job pushed Nick's patience as he juggled both jobsite logistics and learning to operate a new piece of equipment. Terry Duncan, Power Curbers' regional manager who trained Nick eliminated a lot of that stress. "Terry kept me calm through the whole process. With his experience he'd seen it all and solved every problem that came along."

Natale entered a curb market that has primarily been granite and pre-cast curb in the past. With the quality and production Natale's brought to the region with slip-formed curb, we think he'll be quite busy, and jobsites in Connecticut are going to be ready for the asphalt to go in a lot more quickly. **PC**

## Contractor of the Year FINALIST



Power Paver SF-3000 paving 27 ft. (8.1m) wide in Fort Smith, AR.

**C**ongratulations to Steve Beam and all his employees at Steve Beam Construction Inc., Fort Smith, AR on being selected as a finalist in Equipment World magazine's 2012 Contractor of the Year contest. We were pleased to see the company, which owns both a Power Curber 5700-Super-B and a Power Paver SF-3000 slip-form paver, recognized for their outstanding work and safety record.

With permission from Equipment World, we've reprinted a few suggestions Steve made on how he's built such a successful company. The Power Paver SF-3000 is pictured in action on the Chad Colley Extension in Fort Smith where the machine paved 27' (8.1m) wide by 9" (22.5cm) deep with integral curb.

## Steve Beam's 3 Tips for Success

- 1 Don't be afraid to take work that is out of your comfort zone.**
- 2 Complete the project on time and make sure the customer is happy – no matter what it costs. "It takes a while to get a good reputation, but it doesn't take long to get a bad one," he says. "Give customers more than they expect."**
- 3 Find and keep good employees. "The employees are the ones who the customers see, not me sitting behind the desk," Beam says. "Find people who want the same things you do."**



# World of Concrete 2013

# Wrap Up

**T**hank you to the over 300 contractors who visited our booth during the World of Concrete in Las Vegas, NV. It was good hearing from long-time customers as well as meeting perspective customers. We were glad to hear that contractors in many areas of the United States have seen a significant pick up in business over the last 12 months and anticipate a busy year in 2013.

all studying our machinery.

This year Power Curbers displayed a 5700-C with Topcon Millimeter GPS controls and Power Pavers displayed our new SF-1700 slip-form paver with Leica 3-D controls. Both companies have systems at work with customers and see interest in stringless technology growing steadily.

International visitors continue to increase in numbers each year. The Power Curber & Power Paver booth was a global crossroads with contractors from South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia

If you missed us at World of Concrete, make plans to see us in Munich, Germany at Bauma!

# Service Schools 2013

Power Curbers just wrapped up its annual Service Schools by hosting the most students since 2008. Schools for the 5700-B, 5700-Super-B, and 5700-C were all at capacity. Topics ranged from hydraulic and electrical schematics, to jobsite trouble-shooting, to mix design. The always popular "Engineering Roundtable" gave students the chance to ask questions and share ideas and suggestions with Power Curbers' design engineers.

If you missed the Service School this year, contact us soon to register for 2014. And don't forget our technicians are available for jobsite training in the meantime.



This year, we're celebrating 60 years of manufacturing and supporting curb machines! Since 1953, from small extruded

curb machines to slipformers paving airport runways, we've enjoyed growing with you and we look forward to the next 60 years. Throughout 2013, we'll give you the opportunity to celebrate with us with 60th anniversary parts specials, giveaways, and Power Curbers gear. Be on the lookout!

**Power  
Curbers**  
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# WHAT'S MISSING?