



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

POWER CURBER PROFILES

Our Commitment Shows

7' BARRIER SIMPLE WITH 7700



Command's 7700 using a custom mold to pour barrier foundation

“With the machines we had, we couldn’t have poured that 84” barrier wall.” Derek Commander, owner of Command

Construction chose to upgrade his fleet by purchasing a Power Curber 7700 Multipurpose Slipform Machine in Spring, 2018. Prior to the purchase, Command used a competitive multipurpose slipform machine for barrier work but that machine couldn’t handle the massive mold required for 7’ variable barrier wall. Derek declares, “The 7700 has been a tremendous value to our company. Going on a high-profile job like that, everyone was looking at us and our machine. We came out smelling like a rose.”

This two-year, \$70 million design/build project by the Louisiana DOTD served to expand I-10 in Lafayette. The focus was a 4.5-mile corridor growing from two to three lanes in each direction into the existing median. The road was aging and growth necessitated its widening and full-depth replacement. Average daily traffic values within the corridor were 62,000 vehicles in 2015, and 93,000 are projected by 2035. Command’s \$10 million portion of the job contained 25,000’ of 54” variable barrier, 7,000’ of 84” variable barrier, 8,000’ of 32” bridge rail, and an additional 2,000’ of assorted barriers. Much of the barrier required a first pass with a specialized mold for reinforced barrier foundation. Command used their new 7700 for all of the slipform work on the project with several different molds. Scott Kuepferle, Project Manager explained that “the 7700 runs very well, it produces the product that we need.”

The job wasn’t without challenges. Command had 24 people dedicated on site for seven months. Several thousand feet of transitions at bridges, pier protections and light poles had to be hand-

formed. Frequent drainage slots added a lot of finish work and the LaDOTD changed

mix designs in the middle of the project. The low-speed torque hubs on the 7700 were critical for Command as they allow operating speeds as slow as one foot per minute.

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— DEREK COMMANDER, OWNER



54” barrier slipformed on top of the foundation

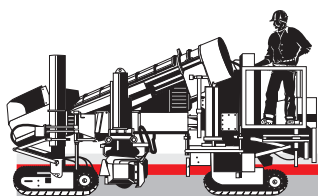
Derek explained “on the tall wall we could go as slow as we needed with the mix design.” Perhaps the greatest challenge of all was the nature of the center barrier wall. Since the project was expanding into the median, variable barrier was required for most

of the concrete median. The highly-adaptive mold and machine were a perfect fit, Derek announced, “we love the 7700, it’s very versatile.”

Command Construction already owned two machines from Power Curbers Companies, a 5700-B for curb and gutter and a Power Paver SF-3000 for their mainline paving. The machines aren’t the only highlight though, Derek adds “service has been tremendous.

They have done a great job. We’ve had zero issues and the machines are making a lot of money for us.” Scott backs that up when describing the 7700, “Support’s been excellent, they’ve been Johnny-on-the-spot. The machine cut 3-4 months off our timeline. It was worth the investment. We are very satisfied.”

Derek and his wife Kelly Commander began their business in 2002. They have 180 employees and are opening a third office in Covington, LA. Existing locations are in Metairie, LA and Baton Rouge, LA. Command services the entire state of Louisiana with concrete paving, sewer drain and water management work, box culverts, curb and gutter, barrier, and other slipform concrete work. Following the I-10 job, they have a paving project planned for their 7700 with a width of 13’ and another median barrier job with 54” wall.



GROWING WITH THE FLOWE

At ten years old, you could have found Micah Flowe helping his father pour a sidewalk for their church over the weekend. At twenty-two, you could have found him starting his own company. Now, at thirty, you might find him atop one of his three Power Curbers 5700 series curb machines. Micah began on his own with nothing more than a truck, trailer, skid-steer, and the knowledge that comes from deep family roots in the construction industry. His grandfather, D.W. Flowe, performed grading work and participated in the site preparation for the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Micah’s father, William Flowe branched off into sand, gravel and material hauling. William later transitioned into running a concrete plant which is where Micah’s interest in concrete was developed.

Flowe’s Charlotte, NC based company started as Concrete Stone & Concepts and his primary focus was concrete driveways. After a few years, Flowe changed the name of his company to M.O. Flowe Construction to respect and honor his roots. Flowe’s self-driven nature led to quick growth and broad expansion of their work, including hand-forming curb and gutter. He once hand-formed 756 linear feet of 24” curb and gutter in one day with a 5-man crew. One particular job where they hand-formed over 4,500 linear feet of curb and gutter for a Wal-Mart parking lot changed the course of the business. Immediately after they finished, the crew leader asked Flowe to please get a slipform machine if they were going to continue doing that kind of work. Flowe listened, did his homework, then bought a factory-rebuilt Power Curber 5700-Super-B. He purchased that first Power Curber in 2014 and, after that, things took off. Flowe revealed that “as soon as the Power Curber came, the business expanded.” Today, M.O. Flowe maintains about 25 full-time employees and is growing into a new location.

Two years after his first slipform machine, Flowe bought a new 5700-C, and then another new 5700-C the following year. He keeps a Power Curber running every day and two machines most days. Some of M.O. Flowe’s best weeks can total more than 40,000 linear feet. Flowe noted one instance where he had to buy a rush order of stringline because the 50,000 feet he had was not enough to cover all their jobs. Even though the slipforming work has surged, the company also does a variety of other civil concrete work using laser screeds and trowel machines. He offers turn-key concrete solutions ranging from parking lots to airports.

Flowe is wrapping up on the future site of an \$85 million Amazon distribution center. When finished, it will add about 600 full-time jobs in Kannapolis, NC. For the project, they poured 18,000 linear feet of 18” curb and gutter. Additionally, some extra-reinforced curb and gutter was needed on the loading dock side of the 1 million square foot building. There, Micah’s crew installed 2,500 linear feet of 48” curb and gutter. The extra size will help the concrete hold up when trucks run over it in the high-traffic location. Following Amazon, M.O. Flowe is ready to jump to another big job at a paper plant. Micah Flowe is determined to succeed. Due to his impressive work ethic and ferocious dedication, his company is thriving. His advice for anyone starting out on their own is to “be prepared for ups and downs and a lot of hours.”



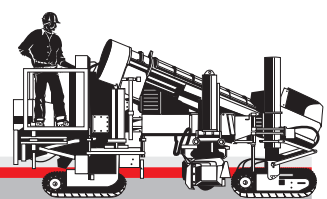
M.O. Flowe pouring 48” curb & gutter with a Power Curber 5700-C.



One of M.O. Flowe’s 5700-Cs slipforming 18” curb & gutter in a radius.

Micah Flowe standing in front of one of his three Power Curbers.





A PENNY SAVED IS A PENNY PAVED

Who says pennies are useless? In 2012, Richland County voters in South Carolina approved a 1% special sales and use tax titled the Transportation Penny reserved for local road improvements. One of the projects coming to life through this initiative is the extension of Shop Road immediately southeast of Columbia. Shop Road is a four-lane divided highway complete with bike lanes and sidewalks. There was no existing access along the corridor, so the project provides the infrastructure for a new industrial site. When the \$19 million project opened for bidding, Don Brasington of Verlington Concrete saw an opportunity, submitted a bid, and was selected to do the paving, sidewalks, and curb and gutter for the project.

Verlington is no stranger to concrete work as they have been completing various hand-formed and slipformed concrete jobs since 1968. Don’s father, Frank Brasington built the business from the ground up. Now Don runs the business with his sister, Michelle Brasington, who works as a Project Manager. A third generation, Matt Brasington, has been learning to operate their equipment from his father, Don. Verlington Concrete is based in West Columbia, SC and completes work throughout the state with twenty-eight employees who specialize in commercial and industrial concrete work.

The Shop Road extension is Verlington’s largest paving job to date, and it came with 5 inspectors monitoring their work. After some slow progress with a roller screed, Don made a big decision to purchase a Power Paver SF-1700. Matt described their situation, “when Don gets on a job, he fully commits to it.” The job specifications include over 51,000 square yards of paving over approximately one mile. Most of the paving is sixteen feet wide and ten

inches deep. The concrete is a 4,000-psi mix with a slump of 1.5 inches. Don and his crew of sixteen also completed a combined 6,000 linear feet of sidewalk, and curb and gutter for the project.

With the shift from a roller screed to a new paver, Don and Matt expected a learning curve. But through the instruction of two Power Curbers & Power Pavers field technicians, they picked it up very quickly. Matt reported, “I ran the controls for 300 yards on day one with no problems and after the first week things were running really smoothly.” Before the paver purchase, they were able to complete about 100 yards each day, but on the first week

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– DON BRASINGTON, OWNER

with the SF-1700 they were approaching 500 yards per day. Both Don and Matt echo that production has increased three to four times. The benefits were not only recognized through changes in production. Matt acknowledged that “the paver really improved our company and workers’ morale by eliminating the hardest back-breaking parts of the job.” At their new pace, Don anticipates completing the job in February 2019.

Verlington has a long history with Power Curbers & Power Pavers. They owned two extruders in the early 70s, bought a Power Curber 5500 in 1988, and have upgraded through a 5700-B, 5700-Super-B, to a 5700-C in July 2017. Don explains “we’ve been dealing with Power Curbers & Power Pavers a long time; they treat us like family. The service, product support, it all has a personal feel.” Leading into their third generation of family ownership, it is clear how important family is to the Brasingtons. Having a great attitude and friendly support is one thing, but without capable equipment, it isn’t worth much. Fortunately, Power Curbers Companies has both. Don describes their Power Curbers and Power Paver as “reliable and quite simple to work on. Parts are readily available, pumps, hoses. It makes a difference.”



The Brasingtons with their new Power Paver. (Left to Right: Michelle, Matt, Don)



POWER CURBERS POWER PAVERS PROFILES

Volume 28, Issue 1

Power Curbers Companies, LLC.



Upcoming Events



- 5700-B: February 4-5
- 5700-Super-B: February 7-8
- 5700-C: February 11-12
- 5700-C: February 14-15
- 5700-C: February 18-19

Power Curbers Factory
– Salisbury, NC



Topcon mmGPS Training School
February 26-28, 2019
Power Curbers Factory
– Salisbury, NC



Leica iCON Training School
March 12-14, 2019
Power Curbers Factory
– Salisbury, NC

bauma
April 8-14, 2019
Munich, Germany

Application Spotlight: SF-2700

Location: Northern Texas
Customer: JKL Construction Inc.
Project: Dairy Cattle Barn Floors

Specifications: 20 ft wide (6.1m), 10%
cross-slope which equates to the crawlers at a 25 inch
(63.5 cm) height difference

