

Customer

solutions

Industry / Application: Foundry
 Success: **Improved Performance**
 Company: D&L Foundry
 Location: Moses Lake, Washington
 Date: September 2005



D&L Foundry in Moses Lake, Washington, installed a Wheelabrator® 8 wheel monorail blast machine in early 2003 as part of a process to modernize their foundry. This new monorail machine, formerly marketed as a BCP® product but now sold under the consolidated Wheelabrator brand, reduced the amount of material handling to one time on and one time off the system, and eliminated all fork lift work and much of the manual labor involved with the previous process.

Known for producing municipal castings such as man hole covers and rings, gratings for trees, and commemorative event plaques, D&L Foundry decided to change the process for handling castings after they come out of the rotary shake out barrel. Previously, either a Wheelabrator 22 cubic foot Tumbblast® machine or a Wheelabrator 96" Swing Table machine were used at this point in the process to remove the remaining sand that is left over from the casting process. Now parts are picked directly off the shaker conveyor by a hydraulic manipulator and hung in baskets on the overhead monorail system. Because the parts are extremely hot, they leave the building on a zig-zag conveyor line at a rate of 10 feet per minute to cool before returning into the building and 8 wheel monorail shot blast machine. When castings leave the blast machine they gain elevation to go directly into the cleaning room in an adjacent building where castings undergo automatic or manual grinding.

Jason McGowan, General Manager of D&L Foundry, states, "Because of the change in the overall system, the new monorail machine is reducing the labor rate and material handling costs, and the cleanliness of the castings is much better."

The 8 wheel monorail blast machine designed for D&L Foundry is a one of a kind machine. A continuous monorail system, the machine never stops moving. Constructed of heavy duty abrasive resistant manganese steel, the machine is sand resistant to meet the heavy duty needs of the foundry. The monorail is equipped with 26-1/2" diameter, 1800 rpm, direct driven, Autoblast® Wheels with 12 "V-lock" blades and a Targetlok® control cage. The wheels are protected with a cast wheel housing with in line top and end liners. A direct drive wheel motor flange mount is integrated with the housing allowing for much easier maintenance because no special alignment is required.

Wheelabrator reserves the right to change the specifications referred to in this literature at any time, without prior notice.

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When referring to the 8 wheel overhead monorail blast machine, please use the Wheelabrator brand name.

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