

DAMERON



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your needs*



DAMERON'S ERGOLIFT POURING APPARATUS

Fast, Efficient and Safe!

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Webster's Dictionary defines "ergo" as "from the direction of". It also defines that "lift" means "to raise". Loosely interpreted, it could also mean "to lift in any direction".

That loose interpretation is exactly how Dameron would describe what their Ergolift has meant each day as it has operated on the pouring floor of the Compton, California foundry. In addition to the flexibility of the apparatus, a variety of other features including speed, efficiency and control have also been realized.

Dameron purchased its first Ergolift Manipulator (manufactured and distributed by ERGOFLEX, Inc. – Carpentersville, IL.) back in November of 2000 for service at their corporate facility in Compton.



The system is a self-contained, manually controlled, hydraulic lifting arm used for quick, convenient and accurate handling of our molten metal transfer from melting furnace to readied molds (see photo). It is so much faster, definitely safer and more versatile than the hand pouring operation that was previously in place. It relieves the operator of strenuous operations and it does this quickly, safely and without manual strain to any of the operators of the equipment.

Anyone involved with the foundry industry will agree that the pouring floor is an extremely busy and intense operation. Dameron is no exception. On any given work day throughout the Dameron organization, nearly 15,000 lbs. of 3,000 degree F metal gets poured. At any given moment you can have the potential for a serious problem if metal is inadvertently spilled. The Ergolift system simplifies getting the metal to the molds that are positioned in varying heights in an efficient manner with a high level of speed, efficiency, accuracy and safety. "Metal loss, fatigue and back injury are no longer a concern with this manipulator", said Rick Aspetia (Compton Plant Manager). "It allows the operator to accurately pour the molds without any notable error". He went on to say, "this system opened up new opportunities for fast, convenient and safe handling of our molten metal pouring requirements".

With the success of the system installed in California, another Ergolift Manipulator was installed at the company's Dafmex operation in early May of 2005. It produced the same results as the system in Compton. The next logical move was to purchase a third system

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Dameron's Ergolift - cont. from pg.1

for the Dafco facility in Louisville, Kentucky. On June 25, 2008 that was realized at Dafco. As was the case in California and Mexico, this system has already improved the efficiency, speed and accuracy of the Dafco operation. And while Dafco already had the best safety record of all the Dameron facilities at the time, this new system has set the standard for safety even higher by now reducing the potential for accidents even further.

Improvements in efficiency, speed and safety are all welcome results of the installations for the company. However, and probably most importantly, our customers are also the beneficiaries of these additions to Dameron's manufacturing processes. The advantages realized by Dameron are easily translated into advantages for our customers...improved quality resultant from more controlled and consistent pouring of their castings from lot to lot and faster shipments due to the efficiency of the system.

Dameron's Ergolift Manipulators...fast, accurate, reliable and safe! A "win/win" combination for both customer and foundry. Δ

Dameron is ITAR® Registered

by: *Charlie Wolfe, VP of Sales*

On September 30, 2008, Dameron Alloy Foundries officially became ITAR® Registered. This registration process is granted by the US State Department and is valid for 12 months and must therefore be renewed on an annual basis.

Simply put, Dameron understands the rules surrounding ITAR (International Traffic in Arms Regulations) and has the procedure in place to prevent violating the intent of the document.

For our manufacturing process, this means any items we produce that become part of a weapon system is subject to the rules and regulations of ITAR and AECA (Arms Export Control Act). The primary intent of the registration is to prevent the transfer of defense related technology (drawings, specifications, certifications, etc.) to those (individuals and/or countries) who are not legally permitted to use it.

Further, the use of electronic transfer of such documents is not permitted unless both parties involved have a secure system in place that prevents third party interception of the communication channel. An export license is also required and must be approved by the State Department for any shipment to legally leave the country with a foreign country destination.

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Conforming to ITAR is extremely important. Dameron supports the requirements of the program very seriously and has an on-going training session for all specific employees involved.

This is just one more step in the process of Dameron Alloy Foundries becoming "your" foundry of choice for all your defense and aerospace casting requirements. Please contact us directly via the mediums in this newsletter and learn how "We Will Fill Your Needs". Δ

AS-9100 Re-Certification Audit

October 24, 2008 was the sixth of a six day re-certification audit performed by DNV for Dameron's AS-9100 Certificate.

When it ended with a total of 3 minor findings, the auditor commented that it is extremely rare that only a few minor finds are the result of such a significant and detailed audit. He went on to say that he was extremely impressed with the effort and enthusiasm displayed by the Dameron staff during the audit.

Having such a remarkable audit is a testament to the commitment Dameron and its co-workers have to the aerospace industry that it so proudly serves.

This re-certification followed a series of audits as detailed just below:

April 2, 2008

Surveillance NADCAP Welding Audit – "0" findings

October 18, 2007

Surveillance AS-9100 Audit – "0" findings

April 12, 2007

Original NADCAP Welding Audit – "0" findings

January 18, 2006

Original AS-9100 Audit - "0" findings

A copy of our new AS-9100 Certificate is available from any of our sales staff members or on our website at www.dameron.net. Δ

QUOTE

*"When you can do the common things
in life in an uncommon way, you will
command the attention of the world."*

- George Washington Carver



State of the Company: *Dameron Alloy Foundries*

As you read this, we are nearing the half way point of 2009 and I want to share some of my thoughts with you on the current times.

It has been just about ten months since my father passed away and I would love to be able to sit down with him right now and get his thoughts on the incredible things that have occurred during these ten months. It was a great comfort to be able to walk into his office to just talk about his experiences and how we should tackle a new challenge, as it would arise.

My father's life was substantially formed by the Great Depression and the principals he learned from that time were the foundation of how our company has been run. We have been conservative by nature and always looked at our responsibility to "save for the rainy day". It has certainly been raining for the past several months but we are prepared to weather these storms.

We speak of my father often and the legacy that he has left us. Today those lessons and his legacy are being tested by forces often beyond our control. We learned those lessons and while we did not always give them full credibility in the past, today his teachings have our full attention and the utmost respect.

Dameron Alloy Foundries is strong today due to the philosophies of reinvestment back into our business and to not spend beyond our means. The strongest teaching was that we must always take care of our customers and be there for them in the tough times.

Today, as we take in each new lesson of these challenging times we are confident knowing that the foundation to handle these challenges is vested in each of us.

I thank my Dad for what he passed onto us. We will continue to learn from the new challenges we are facing today, built upon the lessons he taught us so well. First and foremost we know that our mission is to insure that we bring value to our customers and that mission has never been more important than today.

Best Wishes to everyone in 2009.

Sincerely,

John W. Dameron



200 Series Stainless Steels: Are they as good as 304 and 316 Stainless Steels?

Portions extracted from article with permission from Thomas Spence/Flowserve from Winter '08 Issue of Valve Magazine.

The original 200 series stainless steels were first developed in the 1930s by using manganese to replace some of the nickel in the 300 series austenitic stainless steels.

Historically, manganese has always been a lower cost element than nickel. So whenever there is a scarcity of nickel (as there was in the 1970s) or when nickel prices are high, such as they were in 2007/2008, people look to the 200 series stainless steels as lower cost alternatives.

There are two categories of the 200 series stainless steels – those that only replace some of the nickel with manganese, such as the original 201 or 202 grades, and those that replace most of the nickel, such as the newer grades now being seen in Asia. These newer grades also tend to have lower chromium, which further decreases their corrosion resistance.

To date there are no international standards for the use of these new grades. Since 200 series grades are non-magnetic, this could cause a buyer to mistakenly believe they have the correct and more corrosive resistant 300 series stainless steel.

While the 200 series alloys do have good atmospheric corrosion resistance, they do not have good resistance to most corrosive chemicals.

There are also some new lean (lower nickel) duplex grades on the market that may be even more cost effective.

In any case, be sure to deal with reputable and knowledgeable suppliers who can assist you with the proper material selection.

For the complete article, go to www.valvemagazine.com, click on Magazine on the menu bar, then Past Articles, then Materials Q & A and then the link for Winter 2008 – Less Expensive Stainless Steels. Δ

Dameron Announcements

Births To Dameron Employees

Angel Gutierrez Jr.

Son born to Angel Guitierrez & Sonia Sanchez
Born: 08/22/08, 7 lbs., 2 oz., 22"

Andrew Villalobos

Son born to Hector Villalobos & Maria Vera
Born: 08/26/08, 9 lbs., 8 oz., 20"

Alexander Montes

Son born to Francisco and Wendy Montes
Born: 11/10/08, 9 lbs., 4 oz., 31"

Jarel Tsai

Son born to Johnny Tsai and Meiwen Chen
Born: 03/06/09, 7 lbs., 6 oz., 19"

Special Moments



Joe Todd retired from Dameron on November 18, 2008 after serving the company for 32 years. Shown in the photo to the left is Joe along with John Dameron (R) and Jeff Milucky. Good luck in your retirement Joe and "Thank You" for the service.

On December 3, 2008, Rene Cuadras retired from the company. Rene had 29 years of loyal service. Enjoy your retirement Rene and "Thank You" for your many years of service. Rene is shown in the photo with Jeff Milucky (R) and John Dameron.



2008 Perfect Attendance Employees

On December 31, 2008, the Dameron co-workers shown in the photo completed the year with perfect attendance (no missed days, no absents, no tardies). The names of each co-worker are listed along with the number of years in parenthesis they have had perfect attendance. **Names in bold red show an outstanding commitment by the co-worker.**



Front Row, L to R: Angel Gutierrez (1), Josefina Alarcon (5), Maria Reyas Samaniego (3), Maria Alvarado (2), Maria Lopez (4), Porfiria Guerrero (3), Elia Gomez (7), Carmen Morales (2) Pablo Ortiz (7), Claudio Solorio (1)
2nd Row, L to R: **Paul To (12)**, Salvador Rocha (2), Javier Corona (1), David Guerrero (3), **Heriberto Soto (18)**, Jose Flores (1), Angel Rivera (1)
3rd Row, L to R: **Hector Diaz (19)**, Rafael Radillo (9), Jesus Rayas (1), Nicolas Garcia (2), Roberto Jimenez (3), **Mario Espinosa (13)**. **Not Shown:** Baldomero Guillen (1), James Johnson (3), Juan M. Hernandez (1).

New Hires

Yutaka Hirota - Quality Control Engineer
Christina Dameron - Marketing Manager

Promotion/Transfers

Kristi Gregory -Aerospace Estimator to Manf'g. Engineer

Thank you, Survey Respondents

In June of 2008, Dameron received and tabulated the results of its annual Customer Survey and would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to each customer representative that responded.

The information gathered from that survey serves two valuable purposes for Dameron. The first is that it meets a specific requirement of our AS-9100 Quality System. The second and most important, we feel is that it provides us with a written understanding of how our valued customers view

our performance for them and our position in the industry. With the rating data that our customers supply to Dameron via this survey, we are able to see specifically the areas of our operation that need improvement. We then take the appropriate action needed to accomplish improvement in that area.

So again, "Thank You" of taking the time to respond to our survey and we will look forward to hearing from you again with the 2009 survey. △



We Fill Your Needs

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