REGAINING OUR COMPETITIVE EDGE
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It goes without saying that the first action is to eliminate waste labor. It is my opinion that waste in every form is under surveillance and most processes or production procedures have been examined very rigorously.

If this is conceded, what is left? Let’s be frank at least with ourselves. Almost everything is a matter of labor. In our industry, the metal in the earth is in place thru no cost to civilization but the location and acquisition of the property involves major expenditures.

From there on, there are major labor costs. The first is mining, then there is smelting, perhaps there is casting or other fabrication. There is usually design and engineering, then machining and finishing. These costs pyramid. They can be dismissed with the wave of the hand but the work has to be done or the product will not materialize as a satisfactory item.

When it is conceded that in one way or another about everything is composed of labor, it may be agreed that as labor costs go up so do the costs of the products to which they apply.

Also when compared with competitive industrial countries, when their equivalent costs are less than ours, they have a competitive advantage. This is the situation now and if we wish to regain a competitive status we must reduce this margin.

This can be done in several ways. We can speed up productivity on standardized items. We can reduce wage hourly rates to an equivalent status. We can use robots where practical; however, to do this there must be an incentive.

With politicians allocating mammoth funds to nonessential projects instead of cutting taxes by eliminating them, the incentive is reduced. I have heard people state how many days they have to work to cover their tax liability after which they estimate that their earnings can be retained or used at their discretion.

The advantage of operating in a free country is reduced if profits are syphoned off even before realized by unnecessary taxes to support programs not to the advantages of the country.

Consequently, we must end where we began by the statement that to restore the competitive edge we must reduce the incentive. Only in this way can we increase the incentive to compete.

EDITORIALS

Our editors are the senior officers of this company and our policy permits each of us to express thoughts which we believe can be contributions to the voice of public opinion in business. It must be emphasized that the thoughts expressed are those of the author and not necessarily endorsed by the rest of the Board of Directors of this company. Kraissl Associates, acting in the capacity of consultants, handle the technical aspects of our public relations program.

We want this publication to be available when you are able to invite us to exchange current ideas, information and technical data without intrusion.

BARRIER SEPARATORS

According to our definitions this includes both strainers and filters. We draw the line for convenience, between strainers and filters at perforated metal screens or the equivalent in coarse mesh. Usually the same housing can accommodate either strainer or filter inserts so that if an incorrect selection is made to meet an application, the insert or basket which is inconsequential in relative expense can be substitute.

Single separators can be selected if the process or application calls for intermittent service or inspection. When the application calls for continuous operation a duplex unit is needed so that one side can be serviced while the other is in operation.

There is a single separator available in each of our class separators and the bulletin that describes each class shows not only the characteristics of the single separator but in most cases the dimensions.

Since in most cases the single separator can be visualized as one side of a duplex unit this description emphasizes the duplex separators for comparison applications.

MULTI ELEMENT BASKETS

Basket strainers have been supplied from their inception with single element baskets but this does not take advantage of additional surface that can be offered by the greater separating area of multi element baskets.

Basically the housing of a separator is merely an enclosure for holding a separating element in position so that it can separate undesirable extraneous matter from the fluid being conditioned which is generally a liquid but which can be a gas.

With due allowance for ample flow considerations, the more separating area that can be accommodated, the greater will be its separating efficiency. For example, our double element...
baskets can provide between 30 to 50 percent greater separating area depending on screen open area than single element baskets of the same external dimensions. This permits a more compact and less costly unit than a similar separator of the same screen area limited to a single element insert.

One of the considerations is how the double elements are secured and the photo shows our patented devices for holding the double element baskets together. When rotated in the opposite direction from closure they easily separate and it is our opinion that the elements can be more easily cleaned as the outside element has a port when the inner element is removed, through which the accumulated debris can be easily removed.

DISTRIBUTED

While few will argue with the historic value of paddle wheel steamers that used to ply the Mississippi River, there seems to be less of them being built in this modern generation, and the same might be true of single element separators. A triple element basket is also shown which has been designed for those who need additional separating area for the larger size units. There is a nice balance of consideration between the extraneous matter that must be separated, the liquid flow, the amount of debris per unit volume and the time it takes to clean the baskets.

It might be good thinking to have clean baskets available for all sizes used so that a clean basket could be immediately inserted and the dirty basket cleaned when convenient. Then duplex separators would reach their efficiency as down time would be reduced to a minimum.

SINGLE SEPARATORS

Our basic term of separators is our designation for both strainers and filters as the insert or basket becomes the barrier and in most cases the collector of separated debris.

Single separators are used when the process or procedure can be interrupted for cleaning and duplex units are mandatory when interruption is undesirable or in many cases unacceptable.

CLASS 72A THREE PIECE DESIGN

While most of our customers have found the separating area of our double element baskets more than adequate for most purposes, the larger size separators can also be supplied with triple element baskets. This, again, adds greatly to the separating area without increasing the size of the body or closure. In these days of competent engineering design it is important to take advantage of progress that has been provided.

TRIPLE ELEMENT BASKET
U.S. PATENT No. 3,347,386 SIDE VIEW

CLASS 72 DUPLEx INTEGRAL DESIGN

For standardized low cost applications, the integral design meets most requirements. The internal channels like the three piece construction hold pressure drop to a minimum by keeping each size consistent with the nominal pipe size.

The valve plugs, also like the three piece design are of an anti-wedging taper so that plug lifting devices are usually not necessary except for

VARIETY OF DUPLEx SEPARATORS

The three piece design was the first of our duplex series and many customers prefer them. They have the advantage that if a unit is accidentally dropped and a foot knocked off, the entire unit is not ruined or the foot can in many cases be welded by removing the side body without distorting the machine work on the valve center section which is the most expensive part.

This design has also the advantage of reinforcement around the juncture of the side body and the valve center section, producing the effect of a high pressure auto clave. We use it on many of our higher pressure units and larger sizes in which cases there is many times a trade off between machining the components separately and our integral design with much greater unit weight during machining requiring the services of several individuals.

It also has the advantage of holding wall thickness as the cores are less complicated and can be better controlled by this simplification.

It is available in cast iron, bronze and cast steel, all tested in accordance with Underwriters requirements and for marine cooling water service the valve center section can be bronze and side bodies galvanized cast iron, reducing the cost of an all bronze unit with acceptable limited corrosion characteristics.

The three piece construction has all the advantages of the integral design with a great deal of versatility as the side bodies can be shortened or elongated with minimum expense if this is desirable.
stainless steel construction and even this may be eliminated by specifying an integrated graphitized coating that minimizes galling or scoring when stainless elements operate with other steel components.

The integral duplex separators our term for both strainers and filters are available in usual metals with the cast iron intended for off the shelf delivery. During seasonal activity the demand for certain sizes may exhaust our stock but careful records of the most used sizes are being kept so that our authorized stock can be adjusted.

CLASS 73 SERIES DESIGN

Our duplex separators with visible sumps were designed so that separated debris could be easily eliminated when accumulated.

It has been found that the best arrangement is with the side chambers in a vertical position like the rest of our line so that baskets can be easily removed when cleaning is necessary.

Brass has the components for self electrolysis, which mandates a bronze specification to avoid this possibility.

It has always been a source of wonder to us why Naval Architects do not specify salt resisting aluminum. The completed unit would be much lighter and we believe if manufactured in similar production quantities, much less costly.

CLASS 75 SINGLE SEPARATORS

These are directed toward fuel conditioning requirements. Since diesel oil fueled motor cars as well as commercial vehicles are beginning to be generally employed, there is no question in our minds that there should be a filter on each vehicle to preclude a situation that happened to us.

The Class 75 series is a successor to our 72-72D where the gauge was on the side wall. This was difficult to see even with a flashlight, so we arranged that the whole sump could be visible. We tested both on the boat illustrated and could find no difference in performance so we obsoleted the former. It can be emphasized that the rat-trap partition in the bottom of the main body permits separated extraneous matter to go through but it appears that no matter how the boat is jostled by wave conditions the material separated out does not appear to contaminate the fuel.

There is less likelihood of this occurring with vehicles operated on land although there might be a close approximation with the pot holes in some roads and of course with off the road recreational vehicles.

We found that deleterious water could be separated from gasoline by a 120 mesh insert and we are testing the pictured diesel engine driven car to determine the best mesh to suggest. The greatest problem is in cold weather when the viscosity of diesel oil increased making a too fine mesh undesirable. Additives that might damage or dissolve plastic parts are of no concern with our filters as all elements are of metal.

We also found that water in the diesel oil was not the only problem. We had the tank dropped to determine the amount of water that might be present and found little or no water but a large amount of debris and gunk that would be certain to jam the diesel jets. Since we only go for refueling to reputable sources we feel sure that if it could happen to us, it could happen to anybody. So, we have two extraneous materials to deal with, water and dirt from unknown sources. It seems that with the price of diesels far from inconsequential, it is good insurance to have a controllable filter when all that is necessary is to change the filter basket and we suggest the storage battery syringe method for eliminating the separated extraneous matter.
SALES REPRESENTATION

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