



### Thinking about equipment upgrades? Consider buying used!

he market for used component manufacturing equipment continues to be filled with inventory from shop closures and consolidation. Component manufacturers looking for tips on how to score good deals, make the best decision on used machines and learn how to develop a preventative maintenance program can get tips at a BCMC session this year in Charlotte. At "Buying and Selling Used Equipment" and "No Maintenance, No Problem" on Wednesday, September 29, a panel of seven brokers, resellers and original equipment manufacturers will address trends and tips about today's used equipment market. Here's a preview of the sessions.

### What Are the Current Trends?

Eide Machinery Sales is one of the participants on the panel. The company has been selling new, used and rebuilt equipment for three generations. Vice President Tom Hoy says the availability of used equipment from shop closures or auctions seems to come in waves, so it's not always easy to predict trends. "Most recently it seems that the late model equipment market is starting to dry up. Some of the less automated machines are becoming more prevalent."

Panelist Wayne Masengill (Masengill Machinery Co.) believes as the recession passes, component manufacturers will be making a push to replace their older, less automated machines. He says computerized sawing technology-lineal and feed through sawsis still very prevalent on the used market. "Now's an ideal time to upgrade if you have the need for it." Masengill Machinery was established in 1963 as a full service company selling new and used machinery to the woodworking/manufacturing industries.

The panel plans to talk to attendees about one of the critical mistakes buyers tend to make-not fully assessing their needs. "Sometimes what you think you need and what you actually need are two very different things. This is the first conversation I have with prospective buyers...it's important to talk through the intended purpose of the machine," says Hoy. Another costly mistake: buying because it's a good deal. "Just because you see a good deal doesn't mean it's the right piece for you and your operation."

### **Buyer Beware of Live & Online Auctions**

The panel will urge attendees to be cautious when purchasing used equipment at auctions—online auctions especially. They say the key to a smooth and favorable transaction is homework, homework, and more homework.

Panelist Mark Presley of Eagle Metal Products says component manufacturers should be wary of online auctions, regardless of their convenience. "They're a shot in the dark—you never know what you're getting. It's much more advantageous if you can attend it in person—you might actually see the machine run," says Presley. Eagle is an original equipment manufacturer, but it will also buy, refurbish and sell used equipment.

Masengill says in some cases buyers may think they are getting an excellent deal at an auction, but they aren't aware of a major defect or that they may be purchasing a discontinued machine. "You may not be able to find replacement parts or technical support. That's a problem."

Although auction pricing can be very attractive to shoppers on a budget. Hoy warns buyers to consider the big picture costs in addition to the final sale price. "Don't forget about the buyer's premium, de-installation, freight, and reassembly costs." Often buyers make the mistake of underestimating the full cost of buying at auctions. "The buyer's premium alone

can sometimes run you between 10 and 15 percent of the purchase price. That's a pretty significant amount," he says.

### **Maintenance Programs**

The panel will also present "No Maintenance, No Problem" on Wednesday, September 29, offering tips on how to develop a preventative maintenance program, tools to keep maintenance in check, and what to consider when scheduling breakdowns.

Presley says the most commonly overlooked aspect of preventative maintenance is housekeeping. "People seem to overlook cleanliness of their work spaces." He says when dust accumulates in machine bearings, it may eventually lead to a host of maintenance problems. This is the case no matter if you're working with electric or hydraulic powered equipment.

Masengill says it's unfortunate that preventative maintenance is too often forgotten when machines are working properly. "The whole point is to prevent a major breakdown. It's that old farm instinct: if you don't take care of your tractor, it won't take care of you."

Hoy says it seems there isn't much middle ground when it comes to companies' preventative maintenance programs. "Equipment tends to either be in terrific shape or very poor shape," he says. The good news, Hoy says, is original equipment manufacturers have vastly improved their maintenance recommendations, so component manufacturers have much better tools at their disposal. "They're getting far better guidelines about how to take care of their machines nowadays."

Items that should be at the top of a regular scheduled maintenance list include checking oil levels in hydraulic systems, addressing leaks in hydraulic or air Continued on page 20



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### **BCMC Session Preview**

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systems, draining water traps and filling lubricators in air systems, and lubricating drive chains. Even taking 20 minutes a day to clean up and perform manufacturer-recommended daily maintenance checks will increase production efficiency substantially and improve the longevity of your equipment, Preslev savs. **SBC** 

For these and more tips about buying used equipment and preventative maintenance, join us for BCMC 2010 in Charlotte. Find a complete list of educational sessions in the BCMC Attendee Brochure or on the BCMC website. Online registration is now open at www.bcmcshow.com.

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## IF YOU GO...

BCMC 2010 • Charlotte, NC September 29 - October 1 www.bcmcshow.com

- WHAT: "Buying and Selling Used Equipment" WHEN: 9:15 a.m. Wednesday, September 29 Mark Presley (Eagle Metal Products) WHO: Wayne Masengill (Masengill Machinery Company) Tom Hoy (Eide Machinery Sales, LLC) Jay Halteman (Wood Truss Systems, Inc.) Rod Wasserman (Wasserman & Associates, Inc.) Greg Pritchett (MiTek Industries, Inc.) Jack Van Cleave (ITW Building Components Group)
- WHAT: "No Maintenance, No Problem" WHEN: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday, September 29 WHO: Mark Presley (Eagle Metal Products) **Greg Pritchett** (MiTek Industries, Inc.) Jack Van Cleave (ITW Building Components Group)



August 2010



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