



New Semi Automated Cut-Off Cell from A W Bell Machinery

AW Bell Machinery has just shipped the first of their new semi-automated cut off cells – model ACS560. Designed to complement their existing range of manual cut off and fully automatic systems, the ACS560 is a fully enclosed, joystick operated cut off cell.

“Our manual range of saws have been extremely popular for their ability to greatly improve safety and be versatile with different part configurations, however many of our customers require a fully enclosed system to better contain sparks and dust and further remove the operator from the danger zone.”, explains Stephen Murtagh, Engineering Manager for A W Bell Machinery. “The ACS560 aims to satisfy customer requirements while still providing a

highly flexible machine suitable for a wide variety of part configurations and sizes.”

Four axes of motion provide manoeuvrability of both the cutting wheel and the work piece. A fifth axis provides additional rotation of the work-piece, with standard chuck configurations or customized tooling available. A laser line provides a clear visual indication of the cutting plane.

With proportional control on all axes, part alignment is quick and easy from the operator position outside the cabinet. During the cutting cycle, side motion, part rotation and rapid feed are electronically locked out to prevent unwanted loading on the cutting wheel.

As with all A W Bell Machinery cut

off systems, hydraulic control is utilized, enabling fast starting and stopping of the cutting wheel. It has also provided the ability to use a compact cutting head arrangement. Furthermore, feedback from the cutting head is measured to automatically reduce the cutting feed rate should the load become too high.

A key requirement was to easily load and unload the clamping system with the possibility for crane access. The integrated jib crane and door system that opens up this loading area achieves both of these tasks.

Available as an option to the standard ACS560 is an automatic cycle to complement the manual operation of this machine. A teach program and part storage allow for fast programming



Photo opposite page: Front view of the ACS560

Above photo left: Doors open for part loading with crane access

Above photo right: Doors closed and ready for operation

and part changeover at the shop floor level. “The automatic cycle is not for everyone, but if consistent clamping and tight tolerance control of cast assemblies is achieved, it can represent a significant saving in cycle time,” said Stephen Murtagh.

With a compact footprint, fully enclosed design and large work piece envelope, the ACS560 offers flexibility in factory layout and the ability to tackle the hardest jobs.

For more information, please contact Stephen Murtagh of A W Bell Machinery s.murtagh@bellmachinery.com or A W Bell Machinery’s USA representative, Buntrock Industries.

About A W Bell

Waterjet cleaning, abrasive wheel cut off and abrasive belt finishing equipment. Manual, semi-automatic and full automatic machines and robotic cells custom designed for the foundry industry. In-house testing and R&D facilities. Worldwide sales & service.

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