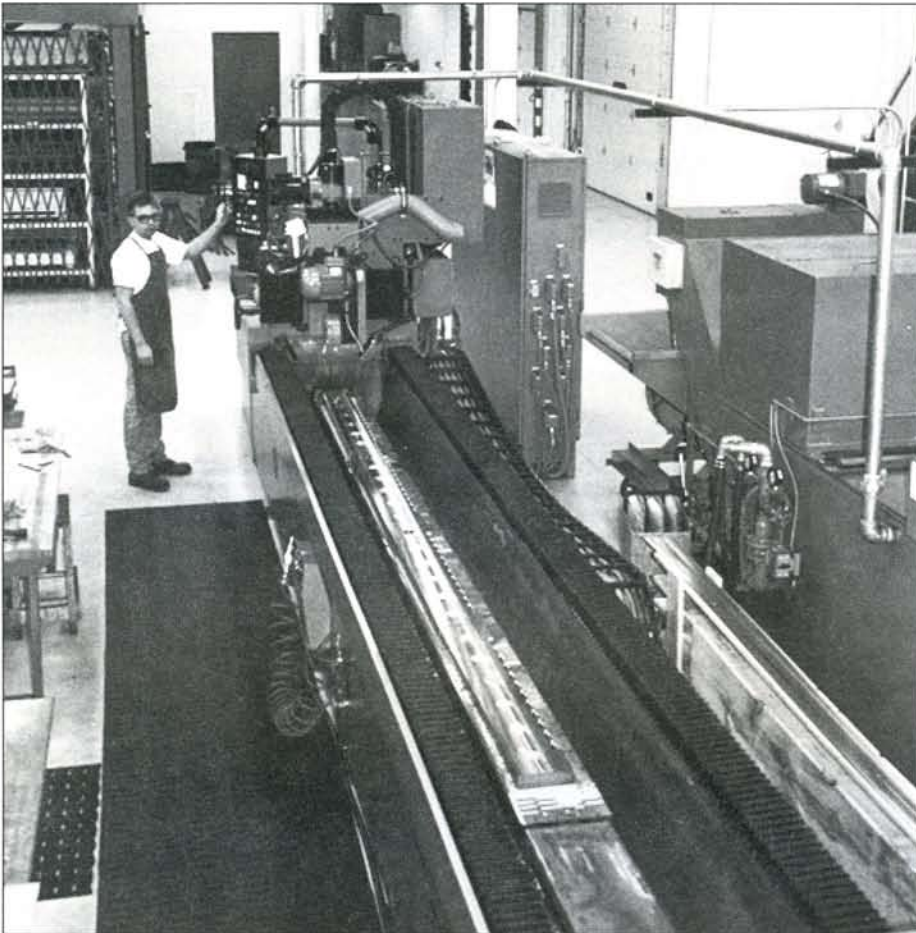


The Sharper Edge®

Keeping the paper and metals industry up-to-date on the latest happenings at Kinetic, Microblade and ORBITAL SAW

MARCH 1996



We've expanded our capacity to grind long knives

We needed our new Reform grinder to help us keep pace with our workload. The new grinder is extremely accurate, and it's 180" (4600 mm) long table improves our ability to produce long, straight knives with fine surface finishes — either for cutting paper or cutting metals. This machine also enhances our regrinding capabilities.

Because the table of the grinder can be rotated to any position, we can easily grind virtually any angle. Right now, we're using standard aluminum oxide grinding wheels, but the machine can use CBN wheels, too.

If you would like more information about how we can produce straight, long knives with high surface finishes for you, call us.

Kinetic's expansion complete

We have been under construction for just under a year, but the dust has finally settled, and the construction crews are gone. Now we can start enjoying our new space.

We're 23% larger, and we're using the space in two ways: to rearrange our milling and storeroom areas; to expand our heat-treating and grinding areas. We have already got one new grinder and a key seater, and we've ordered two new furnaces.

Rearranging the space within the plant has enabled the work flow to move across the floor with more efficiency and to eliminate bottle-necks. We have also discovered that the additional room has helped us evaluate our equipment needs.

The employees love the new area. It's bright, it has new non-skid industrial flooring, and the higher ceiling feels good to work in.

Since this is our 5th expansion since 1970, we asked the boss how long this one would last us. He said to ask you, our customers — your response to our products really decides when we need more room to get our work done.

So we thought we'd let you know that we had gotten used to working amid the noise of the construction crew. If you'd like to increase our sales so we have to expand again, we can handle it.

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Want a knife with better surface hardness and less friction?

We've got it.

If you're looking for less downtime with your knives, read on.

Changing out a knife and readjusting it to cut properly takes time. That's a fact of life in paper mills. What if you could reduce your frustration and shorten that downtime? We've got knives to do just that.

Kinetic's knives with K-Coating. We begin with superior materials and add our special K-Coating. Let us tell you how that makes a difference.

First, there's the way K-Coating is applied to the tools. Other coatings, like titanium nitride, require tools to be heated to about 1,000° F. Such high temperatures can distort the tool, destroying its tolerances. High temperatures also reduce the hardness in the base steel. We have seen tools drop 1-2 points in hardness going through the high temperature process — dramatically lessening their life.

In applying K-Coating to knives, however, the knives are not heated above 650° F. Using this low temperature process, known as Physical Vapor Deposition, maintains close tolerances. PVD processing also retains the hardness of our base steel at about Rc 60. K-Coating then increases the surface hardness to Rc 80. Compare that to titanium nitride at about Rc 75.

And the good news is that K-Coating can be applied to any parts used in shearing — in other words, any part that does not create an impact as it works. Perforation blades, circular slitters, bottom slitter bands, fly knives, and anvils would be prime candidates. K-Coating becomes an integral part of the material.

The result? Fewer change outs. More uptime. Longer life. You use fewer tools. Interested in how our special K-Coating can help your operation? Call us. We'll tell you more.

2 advantages of K-Coated knives

- 1. Improved surface hardness.** Better hardness means better performance and longer life.
- 2. Reduced coefficient of friction.** By keeping friction to a minimum, K-Coated tools reduce the cutting forces of the knife, which makes edges last longer.

New plant for Microblade

We hope to be up and running by late Spring of '96. And when we have put the finishing touches on the facility, it will be the most modern plant manufacturing log and facial saws in the world.

We found this building in the lower Don Valley in Sheffield, site of several older manufacturing plants and steel works which the city is trying to revitalize and refurbish.

Right now we're in the middle of installing new hi-power electrical systems, new machine tools, and new heat-treating facilities. We'll keep you posted on our progress.

Two new furnaces help us keep up with demand

Our new Abar Ipsen furnaces are a half-million dollar investment, but they will pay for themselves in many ways — here are three.

The furnaces record each furnace cycle in a computer data base, giving us complete and accurate information on how your order was heat-treated or tempered.

Their advanced technology gives us more versatility in heat-treating techniques — more ways to improve the durability and toughness of our products.

Increased volume. Designed to handle 2-3 times the load of our older furnaces, the Abar Ipsens should speed deliveries to you.

We'll tell you more in future issues.