

# The Sharper Edge<sup>®</sup>

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

SEPTEMBER 1997

## Brian Labucki, your machine's back — and it's brought a friend

It took 8 months. Every part and every screw has been replaced. Every way surface has been milled and rescraped to precise tolerances. Sandblasted down to its bare casting, the casting is the only thing that remains of our Mattison grinder. The machine is virtually new.

It all began last November. Our 72" Mattison grinder came — if you'll pardon the expression — to a grinding halt. Its hydraulic system had failed so fully that our engineers and the technicians from Mattison Machine Works agreed that it was time to rebuild the 20 year old workhorse.

That's when the complications started. In mid-1996, Mattison lost a costly lawsuit involving a woodworking machine manufactured in the 1930s. The company filed for bankruptcy in late 1996. While this was occurring, our grinder was sitting idle at Kinetic. In January, Mattison closed its doors.

We couldn't give the job to another firm because no one else in the world knew how to rebuild our machine. The Mattison technicians who had the knowledge were currently unemployed.

Not being known for accepting defeat gracefully, we got creative.



*Brian Labucki happily sits atop his rebuilt grinder — the only one of its kind*

Kinetic brokered a deal between the unemployed Mattison technicians and Dial Industries of Rockford, Illinois, a company that had handled contract work for Mattison over the years. We are happy to report that this little venture has turned into a permanent association. Dial now has a new Rebuilding Division, the world again has a source for rebuilding these grinders, and the Mattison technicians are back to work.

The newly-hired techs began tearing down our machine. And while they were at it, they added new features. Right now, this is the only Mattison of its kind in the world. We're so pleased with the job, we bought another used Mattison and put it

through the same process at Dial Industries. It arrived in mid-August.

### **Features that give you an edge.**

Cash Masters, who was in charge of this project for Kinetic, married computerization and craft. Although a GE Fanuc Powermate Control runs the machine, the operator can easily change any grinding function on the fly — an important feature when grinding hardened steel. The process takes finesse, and experienced operators can "feel" what needs to be done to grind a part correctly — an electronic control cannot. Electronic controls ensure the precision of repetitive actions while operators can finesse to perfection.

So bring on the work! We're back to 100% production — and then some.

# Our carbide-tipped bottom slitter bands give you 8-12 times the life

**Carbide-tipped bottom slitter bands compared to the conventional high-chrome/high-carbon tool steel bands? There's no comparison.**

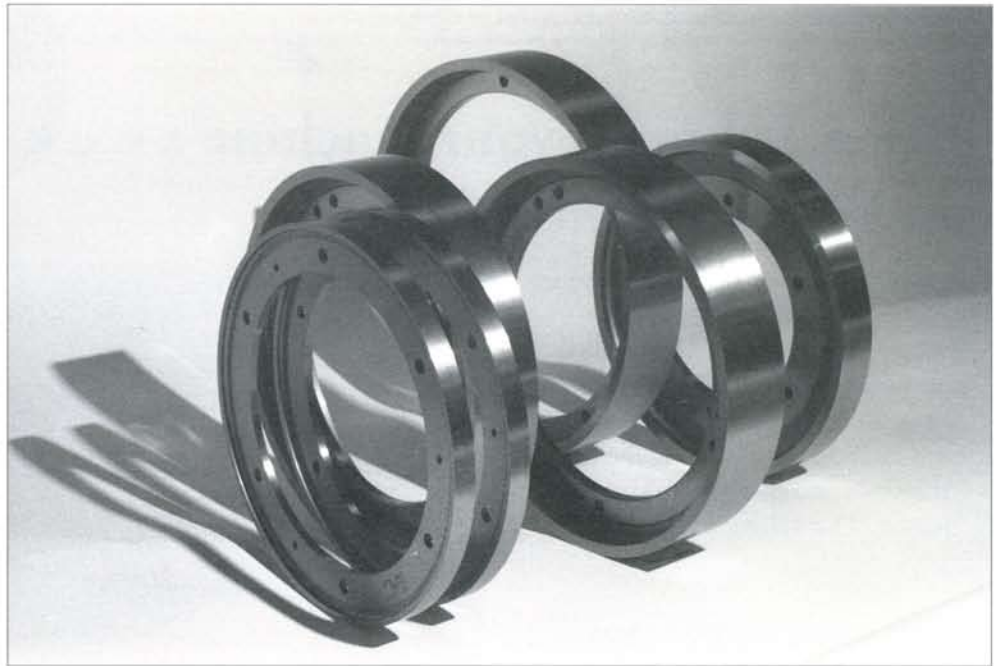
We can make this short and sweet because the numbers speak for themselves. We recently had a customer take one of our carbide-tipped bottom slitter bands off the machine just to check it after 8 months work. The edge still had several months of life left. This story is typical of the reports we get on these bands. Why are they so good?

**Micrograin tungsten carbide is part of the secret.** Our experience plays a major role. Over the years, we have precisely refined our choice of micrograin carbide. The material is very tough and very wear resistant, two attributes which are typically at odds with each other. Joining both without sacrificing either one is difficult, but we did it.

**No porosity problems either.** When carbide is sintered into shape, it becomes porous. When you try to grind the material to a keen edge, the carbide crumbles. We don't have these problems with our micrograin formula. The edge stays keen and strong.

**Our joining process won't separate under stress.** We frequently get our competition's carbide-tipped bottom slitter bands sent to us for regrinding. We notice that the joint holding the carbide to the steel band is breaking apart under the stress of doing its job. Ours don't. Our joining process is proprietary, the product of years of work. Our bands stand up to their task.

**Edges finish ground with extreme accuracy.** If the band is not ground accurately, the cutting edge will have



*Our micrograin carbide formula combines toughness and wear resistance*

excessive run-out, making clean, straight slit edges almost impossible.

**Longer life means fewer changeouts.** Our carbide-tipped bottom slitter bands average 8-12 months life before they have to be reground. What does that mean to

you? Less grief, continuous production, better product, and more of it. We'll let you do the math: these bands cost about 2.5 times the price of high-carbon/high-chrome bottom slitter bands but they deliver 8-12 times the life. And they are virtually maintenance-free. Call us. We'll tell you more.

## Oh, those Golden Wheels!™

Aptly named, these new Golden Wheel grinding stones are producing golden results. As more and more of you convert to them, your reports are super. Most of you are as delighted as we are. As a matter of fact, in many cases, the results are better than we expected. Here are specifics from call reports:

- Many of the first Golden Wheels have lasted more than 5 months - and there's several more months of life left in the stones.
- Two typical grind time stories:

- From 2 seconds every 10 cuts to 1.5 seconds every 40 cuts.
- From 1.5 seconds every 4 cuts to 1.5 seconds every 30 cuts.
- Generally, log saw consumption is WAY DOWN:
- Blades that used to last only 1.5 weeks are still going strong after 3.
- Others have doubled their life: from 18 to 36 days and still at work.
- Still others have tripled their life: from 10 to 30 days.
- Stop-signing is greatly reduced.

Golden Wheels is a trademark of Microblade Limited and THE ORBITAL SAW CO., Inc. Golden Wheels grinding wheels are covered by US patents #5,308,376 and #5,139,537.