

Chicago Metal Forming Exhibition from PREMITEC

At this years US Metal Forming Exhibition held in Chicago, Premitec's Ian Pickles was on hand to help the Hedin Lagan (Sweden) staff in preparation for the event. Premitec are the agents for Hedin Lagan here in the UK.

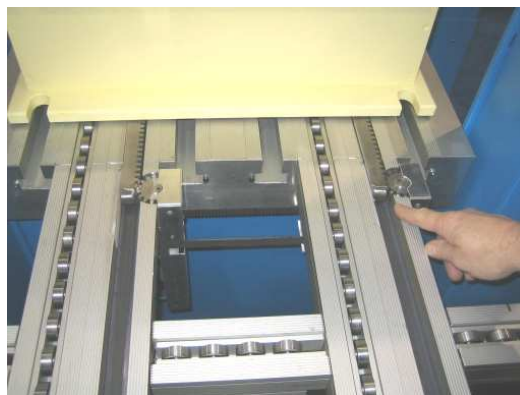


Of all the Hedin Lagan equipment on show, engineers were very interested in the Die Lifters and Die Movers which enable tools to be unloaded and loaded in minutes.

Die Lifters are located in the T slots of the press bed and employ an air bag to inflate at 6 bar to raise the tool clear of the press bed. The tool can then be unloaded/loaded manually on the die lifter rollers.

When a tool is above 4,000kg, then a motorised method of loading is required. This is where the Die Movers come.

Put very simply, a Die Mover is a rod of steel which locates along the length of the T slot and again it employs the same air bag as the Die Lifter. The rod is machined with teeth down one side which locate in a powered gear at the front of the press. (Rack and Pinion).



When the tool needs to be unloaded the air in the Die Lifter and Die Mover is initiated, which lifts the tool clear of the press bed. The gear wheel on the Rack and Pinion is rotated bringing the rod out along with the tool.

The photograph shows this system set up for both loading the tool in and out of the press, but also for moving the tools left and right outside of the press, ensuring a quick die change.

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