

NEWS RELEASE

ATAS International Installs Precision Pre-Painted Coil Slitter

Allentown, PA – ATAS International, a manufacturer of commercial and residential metal roof, wall, and ceiling systems with production facilities in Pennsylvania, Arizona, and Tennessee, has installed an Ultra-Precision High-Speed Single-Loop Turret Head™ Slitting Line in its 100,000+ square feet flagship facility in Allentown, PA. The new slitting line manufactured by Braner/Loopco, Schiller Park, IL, is designed to process 15-ton x 61" wide surface-critical pre-painted aluminum, copper, galvanized steel, and zinc coils in gauges from .015" through .075" at slitting speeds to 1,000 FPM. The slitting line handles 16" and 20" ID x 72" OD master coils and produces slit coils with 16" and 20" IDs with coil ODs to 72".

Compact High Pass Line: The ATAS International slitting line employs the compact high pass line equipment arrangement, an improvement over older floor level slitting line technology. Compact high pass line slitters eliminate strip surface damage and offer faster coil threading, improved coil tracking, and improved slit coil side-wall registration while occupying minimal floor space. The Uncoiler and Recoiler are installed at floor level while the equipment between is elevated to match the largest coil OD. This concept eliminates reverse-bending of the strip against the natural coil-set as the coil is processed. Because the strip is never reverse bent, strip threading is fast and coil-breaks generated from reverse strip bending is eliminated. Product surface quality is improved from the elimination of deflector/pass line roll induced surface scuffing and scratching because high pass line deflector rolls are positioned below the strip, not above, so deflector/pass line rolls never touch the strip surface.

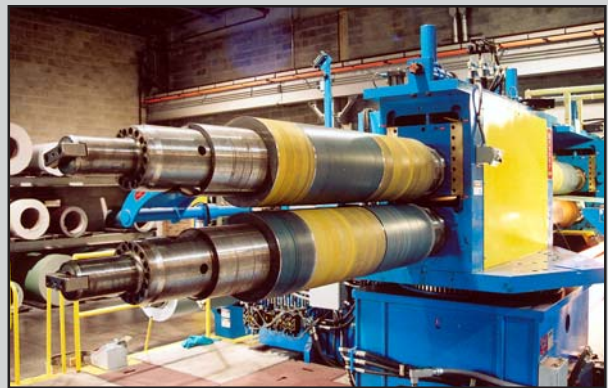


Compact High Pass Line Single-Loop Turret Head™ Slitting Line

Ultra-Precision Turret Head™ Slitter: The Turret Head™ Slitter is equipped with two (2) 8.000" quick-change *ultra-precision* slitter heads that allow ATAS to consistently produce close-tolerance light-gauge surface-critical slit coil with minimal slit edge burr. The unique Turret Head™ design features unobstructed approach to the slitter arbors, which makes tooling loading and unloading easy and fast. Re-tooled slitter heads

are exchanged in less than 2-minutes. The Slitter is powered by a 125 HP-DC drive that allows full loop slitting of all gauges from .015" through .075".

Pushbutton Tooling Lock-Up: The ATAS Turret Head™ Slitter is equipped with a feature that secures tooling onto the slitter arbors via pushbutton activated hydraulic actuated steel locking pads rather than threaded lock nuts. The *Pushbutton Tooling Lock-Up* feature reduces re-tooling time by eliminating the time-consuming task of threading lock nuts onto the arbors and energizing via grease gun. *Pushbutton Tooling Lock-Up* eliminates thread maintenance, broken grease fittings, and messy grease guns, and improves productivity.



Turret Head™ Slitter with Pushbutton Tooling Lock-Up

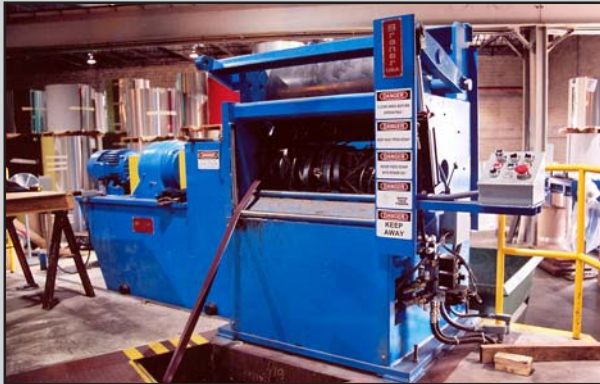
Surface Inspection: A non-marking roller table installed at the exit side of the Turret Head™ Slitter permits efficient visual inspection of the strip surface after slitting. The Inspection Table serves as a scrap side-trim deflector when it is in the running position, and also serves as a slitter tooling inspection platform when the Table is withdrawn from the line during head changes.



Surface Inspection & Slitter Tooling Inspection Station

Scrap Disposal: The ATAS Slitting Line employs a *zero-tension* Scrap Baller to dispose of the edge trip scrap. In order to eliminate scrap edge trim breakage and attendant down-time and oscillated slit coils, the edge trim is

directed *tension-free* into a scrap accumulation pit after the Slitter. The powerful Scrap Baller draws the scrap trim from the accumulation pit and winds the scrap into a tight compact scrap bundle. Scrap bundles are pushbutton ejected from the Scrap Baller into a scrap container.



Massive Scrap Baller Eliminates Scrap Edge Trim Breakage During Slitting.

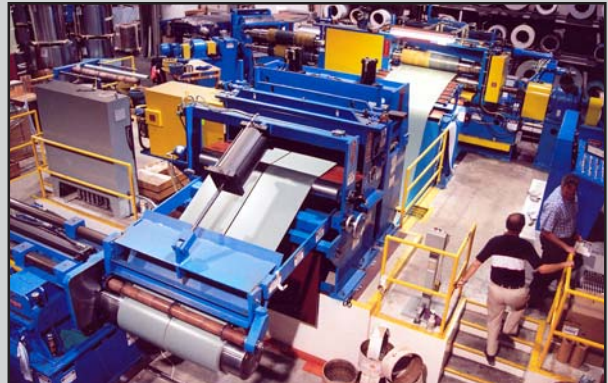
Tensioning Surface-Critical Materials: In order to generate tightly wound straight side-wall coils, the ATAS slitting line is equipped with two tensioning devices: a Pneumatic Pad Tensioner, and a non-marking Roll Tensioner. The Pad Tensioner utilizes felt faced drag pads engaged by pneumatic cylinders to generate winding tension for non-critical materials. The non-marking Roll Tensioner employs special large diameter high-traction coated tension rolls positioned by motorized anti-backlash screw jacks and coupled to water-cooled friction brakes to generate winding tension for surface critical materials such as pre-painted aluminum, copper, zinc, and galvanized coil. The strip tensioning devices can be engaged independently or in tandem, depending upon the materials being processed.



Tandem Pad and Non-Marking Tension Roll Strip Tensioners

Exit End: A pass line/tach roll, Overarm Separator, Strip Threading Funnel, and provisions for a "bolt-in" Guillotine Shear are located at the exit end of the Slitting Line.

The pass line/tach roll directs the strip to the Recoiler and senses the strip winding speed and strip footage. Because of the high pass line arrangement, the strip rides above the pass line roll and not under. This eliminates the possibility of surface scuffing or marking. The Overarm Separator frame is supported from both ends making it extremely rigid to assure squareness with the Recoiler. The Overarm arbor swings-out for 2-minute tooling exchanges. A hydraulic cylinder positioned table working in concert with the Overarm mounted deflector forms a funnel to direct slit strips into the Recoiler drum.



Exit Unit Close-Coupled with the Recoiler Provides Exceptional Strip Tracking.

Recoiler: A 200 HP Recoiler rewinds coils onto a super heavy-duty rewind drum with 2" thick forged steel segments hardened to Rc 58. The gripper bar is a 3" diameter solid steel bar that grips the strips against a hardened serrated steel anvil. The Recoiler drum is mounted onto the output shaft of a large parallel shaft helical gear reducer.



Super Heavy-Duty 200 HP Recoiler.

Heavy mill-duty construction, *bullet-proof reliability*, experience from building 560+ Slitting Lines, and outstanding support made ATAS International's selection of a Braner/Loopco Slitting Line a "no-brainer".



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