

NEWS RELEASE

American Strip Steel Installs Its 4th Turret Head™ Slitter

Pasadena, TX – American Strip Steel Toll Processing & Storage, a multi-location carbon steel coil and sheet toll processor, has installed a new high-performance Braner/Loopco Single-Loop Turret Head™ Slitting and Slit Coil Packaging Line in its Pasadena, TX plant just outside of Houston. The new 72" x 1/4" Slitter joins three (3) other Braner/Loopco Turret Head™ Slitting Lines in operation at American Strip Steel plants.



American Strip's latest high-performance slitting line processes 60,000# x 72" hot rolled, cold rolled, and galvanized coils at speeds to 1,000 FPM. Coil gauge capacity is from .015" through .250". Single-Line or either of two (2) Tight-Line slitting modes can be employed for processing a wide range of gauges and mechanical properties.



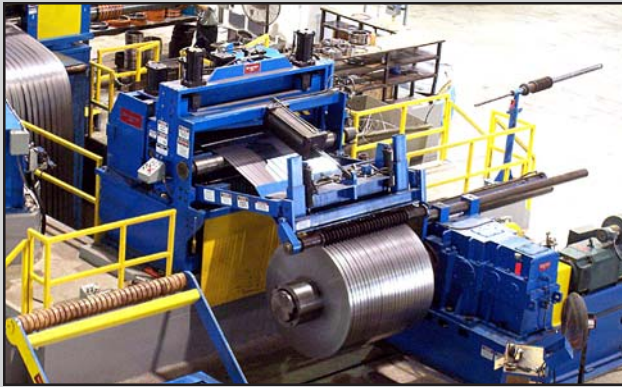
Quick coil threading, superior strip tracking, elimination of equipment induced coil-breaks, and excellent operator sight lines are among the many benefits of the compact high pass line equipment arrangement. Entry and Exit Turnstiles, Entry and Exit Shears, laser beam coil alignment, fiber optic automatic servo edge guiding, plus many other performance features enhance American Strip's ability to efficiently process small and large orders throughout a gauge range from .015" through 1/4".



The quick-change precision Turret Head™ Slitter produces close-tolerance slit strips with minimum burr throughout the entire range of gauge and mechanical properties. The unique unobstructed open arbor Turret Head™ Slitter design speeds re-tooling and accomplishes a head change cycle in one-minute. Reliability is bullet-proof.



American Strip's Turret Head™ Slitter is equipped with two (2) 10" x 72" slitter heads supported in massive precision machined solid steel bearing housings. Arbor shoulder runout at 0.00020" TIR produces precise width strip with minimal burr. The Turret rotates on a precision ring bearing, which assures precise arbor alignment and effortless head change in one-minute. The slitter head at the "re-tooling" station is designed to minimize set-up time. The head is open and accessible with no housings, bases, or structures that would obstruct tooling removal and installation. Free and clear access and quick-change ability allow Turret Head™ users the ability to make more set-ups and head changes per shift than with any other multi-head slitter or tooling transfer design. Turret Head™ Slitters are fitted with multiple integral slitter heads that do not require removal from a base or uncoupling from a drive in order to exchange heads. The integral multi-head design makes Turret Head™ Slitters more rigid, more precise, and more reliable than any other slitter or tooling transfer design.



A Pneumatic Pad Tensioner that generates winding tension necessary to produce tight straight-wall slit coils is installed on the Exit Unit. Quick-change pads and underarm separator can be exchanged in less than one-minute. An Exit Shear, Tail Feed Rolls, Pass Line/Tach Roll, Overarm Separator, Recoiler Feed Table, and safety Coil Tail Hold-Down are installed on the compact Exit Unit.



The 60,000# Recoiler, powered by a 250 HP motor and a two-ratio parallel shaft helical gear reducer, can produce 20" and 24" ID coils. A patented "Speed-Load Filler" gives American Strip the ability to change from 20" to 24" ID coils in one-minute rather than the 15-20 minutes required to install common "bolt-on" style fillers. Slit coils are unloaded from the Recoiler and transferred to the Pack Line Turnstile via Coil Car fitted with a pushbutton engaged narrow coil stabilizer.



Slit coils are efficiently packaged for shipment on a Slit Coil Packaging Line capable of handling 15,000# coils in widths from 1" through 24". An "Operatorless" Programmable Downender automatically retrieves coils from the 4-Arm Turnstile and deposits coils one at a time onto a conveyor line. Radial straps are quickly applied by a semi-automatic Slit Coil Strapper, and the strapped coils are conveyed to the Stacking Station where slit coils are palletized and prepared for shipment.



American Strip personnel gather to celebrate the successful start-up and commissioning of their new 60,000# x 72" Turret Head™ Slitter. This order was 27-cuts in .060" slit to 1.260" wide x ±0.0020" tolerance. Tightly wound straight side-wall coils perfectly done. Exceptional Performance and Bullet-Proof Reliability, made American Strip's decision to install its 4th Braner/Loopco Turret Head™ Slitting Line a "No-Brainer".



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