

Italian company MB Crusher (Meccanica Breganzese) is boosting the versatility of its excavator mounted bucket crushers with the addition of a magnetic separation option. MB Crusher has been a pioneer of the bucket crusher, having first launched its range in 2001 following an extensive period of testing and the award of six patents. This new development further extends the practicality of the proven crusher concept and the separation system is being offered as a retrofit package in kit form for all four of the bucket crushers in the range. However the firm says that it will be offering further innovations towards the end of 2008, with a radical new product offering additional working features being planned at present.

The new separation system being made available now has been developed to meet requests from MB's customer base for a tramp iron removal solution, which is why the magnets are designed for retrofitting to existing units. The separation system is designed for easy installation and can be mounted quickly on-site by a trained technician in just 30 minutes. Installation requires some drilling to the rear of the bucket and the provision of an electrical supply to power the electro-magnet, so the kit supplied by MB Crushers includes all the necessary cables and fittings. The magnet itself weighs 250kg and the weight of the mounting unit varies depending on the size of the bucket crusher.

The magnets bolt on to the underside of the bucket crushers and allow the excavator operator to separate reinforcing bar from concrete being crushed, as well as any other ferrous tramp metal entering the recycling process. As the concrete is processed, tramp metal falls through along with the crushed material. The excavator operator lays the bottom of the bucket on top of the broken material and as the magnet is fitted underneath, it is then possible to lift the reinforcing bar out of the material heap.

The firm's bucket crushers weigh 1.5, 2.25, 3.5 and 4.9tonnes



**Increased versatility will be offered by MB Crusher as the firm now offers a magnetic separation option for its excavator-mounted bucket crushers**

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and are designed for excavators in the 8, 14, 20 and 28tonne weight classes, offering maximum throughput capacities of up to 20, 30, 40 and 50tonnes/hour respectively in optimum conditions. The buckets have capacities of 0.5, 0.6, 0.75 and 1m<sup>3</sup>, allowing feed material sizes of up to 600x450, 700x550, 900x450 and 1200x450mm respectively. The output rate is affected by the hardness of the material being crushed and the size of the feed, as well as the product size setting and jaw adjustment can be carried out in just 30minutes by resetting the jaw shims. The firm's three larger crushers can give output material sizes ranging from 20-120mm in size while the smaller unit can crush material to sizes ranging from 20-100mm. All four of the units feature jaw-type crushers and use manganese steel wear plates that are said to offer long life. Once the wear plates are worn on one side they can be unbolted and reversed, offering double the wear life.

The bucket crushers are said to be durable and long lasting and MB Crusher claims that all 4,500 of the units manufactured since the firm set up the business in 2001 are still in use. The wear rates of the components varies depending on the hardness and abrasiveness of the material being crushed but according to MB Crusher, one customer in Australia is successfully using the largest BF120.4 unit on a 28tonne excavator in a tough basalt application to process material with a hardness of 180MPa. MB Crusher says that the units offer a good cost option to customers as

they are considerably cheaper to purchase than conventional mobile crushers. The bucket mounted crushers are also versatile and can be used in an array of applications including road construction, earthmoving, quarrying and recycling. Because the crushers bolt directly onto an excavator, they count as part of the excavator and this simplifies the permissions process for the user. In many territories the user has simply to gain permission to run an excavator on-site, rather than requiring a separate permission for a mobile crusher. This has led to MB Crusher developing a considerable customer base and taking some sales away from conventional mobile crushers for certain markets. Using the bucket crushers can also make a major cost saving for the user by allowing on-site processing and cutting out the need to transport material from the working area for crushing elsewhere.

The crushers themselves can be fitted to all makes of excavator but the company does have to adjust each unit to suit the hydraulic flow rate and pressure of the carrier. As a result, part of the order process involves the customer supplying information on the make of the carrier machine and its technical specifications to MB Crusher. Sales support for the units is worldwide through a network of dealers and agents, while the company says it can ensure maximum uptime by offering next day delivery of spares though a courier service to major territories ■

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