

# American Industrial Machinery, Inc.

## The **AIM** "Insider"

Spring, 2007 Edition



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**When performance really matters ... take AIM!**  
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### SPOTLIGHT ON PAUL WOJCIK

Paul is a Purdue University graduate with two degrees: a BSIE and an MBA. He started his career in the steel industry with a refractory company, gaining exposure to steel mills across the country.

Paul started at AIM in 1998 and has held positions of increasing responsibility over the years. He is now a Project Manager and finds that the most satisfying aspect of working at AIM is successfully designing and manufacturing "one of a kind" material handling systems.

Life for Paul is centered around his family which includes his wife and two boys: ages 3 years and 9 months. When he's not at work, Paul spends as much time as he can with his boys while working on projects inside and outside the home. AIM's employees enjoy hearing about the boys' latest adventures, which are always both amusing and heartwarming.

### Let's Get Technical - Sizing Industrial Wheels

Starting with this issue, some newsletters will contain an article describing how materials are selected and/or how sizes are determined for some of the more common equipment components we utilize. Today, we will size an industrial wheel (a.k.a. trackwheel) first by determining the live and dead loads placed upon each wheel. Most rolling equipment rides on four wheels, but some have more wheels for their application.

The AISE has selection tables with allowable (maximum) wheel loads for various wheel diameters riding on various sizes of rail. Select a wheel which has a greater allowable load than the live and dead load you already calculated. (This may be a rim/flame toughened wheel or a higher capacity deep/case hardened wheel.) Factor this allowable wheel load up or down depending on the equipment's expected travel speed.

Test to see if this wheel size meets any physical constraints that exist (e.g. height requirements, reducer clearance, etc.) and adjust wheel (and/or rail) size accordingly.

(Disclaimer: Do not try these steps without one of AIM's qualified engineers!)

### From the Corner Office by Mike Dolder, President

We had a lot of happy customers last year when the Steelers won the Super Bowl. This year, it was our turn here in Indiana and Illinois when the Indianapolis Colts and the Chicago Bears played earlier this month. While most of our employees live in Indiana, we are residents of metropolitan Chicago. Most (not all) of AIM's employees were disappointed that the Bears lost the Super Bowl, but all of us enjoyed exciting seasons.

Once the football season ends, team owners and top management focus on building their teams. Some hire new coaches, and all acquire new players. Winning requires a blend of new talent (Devin Hester), and experience (Peyton Manning).

Hopefully AIM's season will never end, but we too must focus on hiring and training the right staff. Three fresh mechanical engineering graduates were hired in the last two years. Last week, we wrapped up our recruiting cycle for this year's college graduates. Two new mechanical engineers will join AIM this spring.

One of AIM's student interns will return for his last summer, and next week, we will hire another mechanical engineering student to join him. Internships and co-op programs provide excellent opportunities for training young engineers. While not every one of our interns decides to start a career with AIM, we all enjoy the benefit of hiring experienced young engineers. As we look forward to a reasonably solid 2007, I hope all of our customers are able to provide training opportunities for the future stars in our industry.



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***Things you may not know about AIM:***

- ⚙️ One service which AIM provides its customers is furnishing spare parts for equipment it designs and manufactures. (Some of the spare parts orders we've received involve equipment which was placed in service years ago.) If you need spare parts now for later use, please contact Dave Moll.
- ⚙️ 71% of AIM's employees rooted for the Chicago Bears in Super Bowl LXI and 29% cheered for the Indianapolis Colts. Rick Copp, one of AIM's Mechanical Engineers, attended the NFC Championship game at Soldier Field and said there was "some serious partying" taking place during and after the game.

# The "Insider"

## Lifting Devices - Recently Designed and Manufactured by AIM



Lift Device for a Caster Segment



Back-Up Roll Lifting Device



Back-Up Roll Lifting Device



Pallet Lifter