



The "Insider"



SPOTLIGHT ON WILL RASHIN

Will grew up in St. John and Crown Point, Indiana, and he currently resides in Crown Point. His parents owned a 30-ft. powerboat, and Will spent many a weekend cruising to several of Lake Michigan's harbors – in Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. Will received his BSME from Purdue University-Lafayette and, before joining AIM Machinery, he worked as a project engineer for a manufacturing company.

Will joined AIM in 2007, and there are a couple reasons why Will enjoys working at AIM. He likes the technical challenges that are inherent in the design of large pieces of equipment, and he appreciates the accessibility of AIM Machinery's top management to its employees. In the future, Will hopes to be given increased project management opportunities.

When he is not working, you'll probably find Will managing his rental properties. He purchases a property, and then renovates it. Years ago, Will played lead guitar in a rock/blues band and his band, *Free Raine*, once performed at Merrillville's Radisson Star Theatre. Will also has designed and built electric guitars. In fact, the guitar in the photo was constructed from one book-matched piece of Cocobolo (Mexican Rosewood).



Isn't this guitar a beauty?



Major Considerations for Sizing Axles

Many pieces of industrial equipment ride on wheels. Listed below are some of the major considerations for sizing an axle capable of supporting them:

- Determine the live and dead loads placed upon the wheel. Also, assess whether an impact load applies, and if so, quantify how much weight needs to be added to the live load.
- Based on the wheel assembly's geometry and loads (from above), calculate the maximum bending moments for the axle and use these values to calculate the required cross-sectional areas through the wheel and the bearings to handle bending stress.
- Other considerations before finalizing axle design are: 1) If applicable, calculate the added torsional stress placed upon the axle by a drive motor, and 2) Selecting the appropriate material considering the axle's stress level.

The above items represent some of the considerations when sizing an axle. Once again, we offer our standard disclaimer: Do not try these steps without one of AIM Machinery's qualified engineers.

From the Corner Office by Mike Dolder, President

According to Webster's dictionary, perseverance means remaining constant to a purpose, idea or task in the face of discouragement or opposition. This definition reminds me of what it is like to manage a business in today's economy.

In this age of cell phones, the internet and computer games, most everyone wants instant gratification, or an immediate solution to any problem they encounter. Patience, it seems, is now a lost virtue. To some extent, I think we are all guilty of this line of thinking, even those of us who remember what it was like to wait on occasion.

More and more each day, we recognize that the recovery will be slow especially in the manufacturing segment. The "Cash for Clunkers" program provided a one-shot boost to the automotive market, but what we really need are sustainable spending increases in both durable goods and construction. Although it's going to take time, I am optimistic that our industry will fully rebound. In my opinion, we need to be patient and re-focus on what made us successful in the first place. In other words, now is the time to persevere and resist the temptation to look for short-term fixes.



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More AIM Machinery News:

Earlier this summer, Cameron Leliaert and Tim Clasby joined AIM Machinery as Mechanical Engineers. Both are BSME graduates—Cameron from Marquette University in Milwaukee, and Tim from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Indiana.

In August, AIM Machinery celebrated its 13th anniversary. Happy Birthday!

Photos from Recent Projects



A Sorting Conveyor which rotates and pivots to distribute product to several different bins.



This Transfer Car is part of a Press Feed System.



Here is the Transfer Car in service.



One of two Scrap Bucket Transfer Cars—both with weighing.



The diesel-electric generator is enclosed in a "doghouse".



Both cars are loaded and ready for shipment.