Castings Improve as Centrifugal Sifter Prepares Finer Sand

Birdsboro, PA—As smoother molds yield better finishes, the quality of castings improves. A centrifugal separator that produces finer recycled sand has enabled Cast Rite Metal Co. to turn out aluminum castings with higher-quality surface finishes. The foundry also reports a 5% saving in labor and a similar increase in productivity as a result of using its Kason Centri-Sifter® centrifugal separator, which sifts the recycled sand to a texture “as fine as beach sand,” according to Leroy Martz, co-owner of Cast Rite Metal.

This smoother-textured sand is easier for the molder to work with. “It flows nicely into the mold and fluffs as the molder works with it,” Mr. Martz said. “No more lumps and foreign material end up in our molds. This was affecting the quality of castings, as some areas of the mold did not pack well because of lumps in the sand,” he explained.

Before the installation of the Centri-Sifter, the vibrating screen and brushes in the firm’s PK unit broke up the sand to a lesser level of fineness. The results were rougher sand particles of irregular size, and poorer surface finishes on castings. Molders spent extra time sieving the sand to pick out foreign matter, such as pieces of wood and metal. For more from Cast Rite Metal, circle E1.

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