



Lode Arm Solves Material Handling Problems with Blood Buckets

Features and Benefits

A lodearm to smoothly and safely handle the payload.

Metering valve control to allow handling of any payload weight within the capacity of the machine.

A simple, mechanical tool designed to trap beneath the two spikes and at the same time support the bottom and back of the bucket. Adjustments can be made to set the tool up for the exact angle of the buckets. Tool was simple, with no moving parts, to allow very efficient cleaning.

Hot Dip Galvanize the entire steel main structure of the machine.

Use anodized aluminum fittings and wherever possible.

Overcoat all other aluminum parts, including the lift cylinder, with an FDA approved paint.

Construct the entire tool of stainless steel.

Use a food grade grease and oil in all joints in the cylinder lubricator.

Seal any cracks or crevices on the machine with an approved sealant to keep bacteria from growing in difficult to clean locations.

Industry Group: Ergonomic Assist Systems and Equipment (EASE)



"Notice the stainless steel tooling and rotation bearing at the bottom of the downshaft. The downshaft itself, as well as all other steel structure is Hot Dip Galvanized. Note: although much less costly, spray galvanizing is available, but the customer preferred the dip method, saying it was more durable and dependable."

The customer is a beef packing plant. At one point in the process, they insert a large container in the neck area of the animal to catch the blood as it flows from the carcass. This "blood bucket" is equipped with a very sharp spike extending at a downward angle from each side to hold it in place. After the blood flow has stopped, the container is removed and hung on a conveyor for transport to a processing area.

The bucket is not only heavy when it is full, but the sharp spikes present a danger to the people handling the bucket. Also, since the contents are liquid, spills are always a concern. One additional problem with this application is the food process area that the machine must work in. It must be suitable to be washed down daily with hot, soapy water from a high-pressure washer.



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