SawSel

Splined Circular Saw Selection Program



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Introduction

About This Program

How the program works

Profits in sawmilling depend on making good choices about everything that affects yield, production rate, and quality. Saw selection is critical to this.

SawSel is a computer simulation that explores options for a range of operating factors such as feed speed, plate thickness, critical speed, load index, kerf and operating horse power. It is a tool to help you to analyse the effects of changing these specifications. SawSel incorporates mill experience and technical data for factors that are known to influence the dynamics of sawing.

Use SawSel to help balance your present operations; to optimise yield, production rate and quality at your mill now Then, test "WHAT IFS" ... to fine tune your system or to plan for change.

Who can use the program?

The program has been developed for :

- MANAGERS, to look at options, if kerf and target sizes are changed.
- SAW FILERS, to compare existing saw selection with alternatives.
- QUALITY CONTROL, to monitor mill sawing practises.

Getting started

The program runs on a 386 or 486 computer that takes a 3.5" disc drive, runs DOS software and has a color monitor .

START UP Install the disc in the appropriate disc drive. Type A:or B: Type TKT

Press ENTER

There will be a brief registration message.

PLEASE NOTE THAT REGISTRATION IS FOR A SINGLE MILL AND IS CODED AS SUCH. MULTIPLE **USER LICENCES FOR A COMPANY ARE AVAILABLE AT SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS.**

TUTORIAL

This tutorial is based on an EXAMPLE of a saw selection program.

THESE DATA AND THE SCREEN PRINT OUT VALUES SHOWN ARE FOR DEMONSTRATION ONLY

Saw diameter	22 in.	
Spline diameter	6 in.	(# 3 spline)
Saw plate thickness	0.120 in.	
Maximum depth of cu	t 6.00 in.	
Minimum depth of cut	t 2.00 in.	
Kerf width		
Feed speed	450 fpm	
	North American	softwoods.

With the floppy disc in the correct drive......type TKT. Press ENTER and the first working screen will appear as shown below....Input data for the example

SCREEN #1

Run Program Screen Jump File Exit Program SCREEN #1

THIS PROGRAM IS FOR SPLINED CIRCULAR SAWS ONLY

Spline inside diameter (nominal):	6.000
Saw outside diameter :	22.000
Saw plate thickness :	0.120

To run this saw below the lowest critical speed, do not operate over 3138 rpm

This rpm gives a rim speed of 18075

<C>ontinue, or <R>edo C

CRITICAL SPEEDS:

This program calculates a speed in RPM that is about 15% below the most dominant critical speed. The Critical speed is that at which the saw naturally wants to vibrate and has poor stiffness. You will not wish to run at a faster speed than is calculated here..

SCREEN # 2

RPM SELECTION

This screen deals with the selection of an RPM for carbide saws, or stellite saws. Whichever you select, the final RPM must be kept below the lowest critical speed. The screen is shown below.

Enter your RPM selection at the flashing cursor.

For the example shown,, enter 3100. The maximum suggested for the saw is 3138 RPM

CARBIDE TEETH SAWS

Try to keep the rim speed of carbide saws below 12,500 fpm. This is due to tooth instability. For the saw being designed, this rpm is 2170.

STELLITE SAWS

Keep stellite saws operating below 14,000 fpm. For the saw being designed, this rpm is 2431.

SELECT AN RPM

Select a speed below the lowest critical 3100 (NOT > 3138)

NOTE:

To return to a previous screen, press ALT on your key pad. Use the directional tab keys to select "Screen Jump" from the pull down menu. Select 1st Screen and enter. The pull down menu will look like this :

Screen Jump File Exit Program

1st	Screen	-	Lowest Critical Speed
2nd	Screen	-	Rim Speed
3rd	Screen	-	Horse Power & Load Index
4th	Screen	-	Number of Teeth
5th	Screen	-	Gullet Area
6th	Screen	-	Final Design Specifications

SUGGESTION : THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH ALL THE PULL DOWN MENU FUNCTIONS. SCREEN # 3

HORSE POWER AND LOAD INDEX CALCULATIONS.

Press <C > to continue.

Enter the data at the flashing cursor as follows: IN THE EXAMPLE For maximum depth of cut enter 6.00

For minimum depth of cut	enter	2.00
For kerf width	enter	0.160
For feed speed at max. depth of	of cut ent	ter 450

The screen reads out:

Run Program Screen Jump File Exit Program SCREEN #3

HORSE POWER CALCULATIONS

Enter	the maximum depth of cut (in inches) :	6.000	
Enter	the minimum depth of cut (in inches) :	2.000	
Enter	the kerf width (in inches) :	0.160	
Enter the	feed speed relative to maximum depth of control The cutting Horse Power is 105.000	ut: 450.000	
	and a second		

The Horse Power read out is 105 h.p.. Remember that this is for one saw line only and is calculated at 35h.p./ft specific cutting energy

The program gives a brief description of LOAD INDEX and displays the calculated figure In the example the Load Index is 0.3713 which indicates that the selections chosen have been conservative.

Cutting accuracy should be good.

SCREEN # 3

Press <C> to continue.

LOAD INDEX

The load index is a saw stiffness indicator. The program calculates how the saw will cut given the data entered. If the Load Index exceeds 0.8 the saw is NOT stiff enough to cut accurately. Bither slow the feed speed, increase the rpm, or reduce the kerf. Load index is 0.3713

<C>ontinue, or <R>edo C

SCREEN #4 (cont'd)

NUMBER OF TEETH

The program incorporates suggested bite/tooth ranges for both carbide and stellite teeth.

The bite/tooth which is the most efficient is 0.038". The program calculates the number of teeth required to achieve this figure and. prompts the user to enter the number of teeth needed,(rounded off to an whole number). IN THE EXAMPLE enter 44 teeth for this saw selection. The program suggested 46, but the example will show that the program is flexible and will display the bite/tooth for any number of teeth entered.

The program then confirms that the bite/tooth should and does exceed the side clearance. If this is not the case, the text flashes as a warning.

Tooth spacing is calculated based on the number of teeth.

The number of teeth that are in the smallest depth of cut is displayed. It is always desirable to have more than one tooth in the cut during this process to avoid vibration.

Press <C> to continue

SCREEN # 4

CALCULATE THE NUMBER OF TEETH

Where bite/tooth range = 0.025 up to 0.055 for carbide teeth and bite/tooth range = 0.025 up to 0.075 for stellite, the best bite/tooth range is 0.038

To achieve a 0.038" bite/tooth for saw being designed, the number of teeth is 46 Select and enter the number of teeth rounded to an even number 44 Check Bite/Tooth is 0.040 The side clearance is 0.020 NOTE: The bite/tooth should (and does) exceed side clearance. Tooth spacing is 1.571 (Keep above 1" and not over 4") There are 1.273 teeth in the wood at the minimum depth of cut. <C>ontinue, or <R>edo C

GULLET AREA.

This screen shows the principles used to calculate the gullet area required.

SCREEN #5

SCREEN #5

GULLET AREA

The Program works with a gullet feed index of 0.3. This is the ratio of solid wood removed to the gullet area available. The gullet area available is the area below the tooth.

The area below the tooth that is required is 0.238 sq.inches.



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FINAL DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

This screen displays all the final design specifications.

SCREEN 6

Run Program	Screen Jump File E	kit Program	
SCREEN # 6	Registered to: THI	N KERF TECHNOLOGIES	S, INC.
FINAL DESI	GN SPECIFICATIONS		
Spline diam	eter	6.000	
Outside saw	diameter	22.000	
Plate thick	ness	0.120	
Operating r	pm	3100	
	th of cut	6.000	
	th of cut	2.000	
	•••••	0.160	
-	· · · · _	450.000	
-	tting Energy	35.000	
	eeth	44 0.020	
		1.571	
	ng	0.040	
	below tooth	0.238	
	sepower	105.000	
-		0.371	

SCREEN # 6 (CONT)

Print these specifications or..... Press any key to continue.

The new screen prompts to either "SAVE" the information by typing y(yes) or not to save by N(no).

FOR THE EXAMPLE ASSUME YES: The output is:

Run Program Screen Jump File Exit Program SCREEN #6 Registered to: THIN KERF TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FINAL DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS Spline diameter 6.000 Outside saw diameter 22.000 Ü OperatinÜ Ü Maximum Ü Ü Minimum Ü Ü Kerf widÜ Save as: Ü Feed Speü Ü TEST COPY SpecificÜ Ü Number oÜ Ü Side CleÜ t Tooth spÜ Gullet area below tooth 0.238 Cutting horsepower 105.000 Load Index 0.371 Lowest Critical Speed 3138.295

> To save these values, enter a file name The screen now prompts you to decide if you want to run a parallel set of calculations. Type Y Do you want # 1 or # 2 alternate? Type 1

> THE PROGRAM NOW ALLOWS A REVIEW OF THE EARLIER SPECIFICATIONS AND PERMITS CHANGES TO BE MADE......HERE YOU CAN TEST IDEAS ABOUT "WHAT IF" BEFORE SETTING UP PRODUCTION RUNS IN THE MILL.

For example, try a thinner plate and kerf width for this application. Use the down arrow to reveal cells: The RPM cell is a different color because the calculation defaults to the lowest critical speed for the new data input.Type Y to cycle cursor and for the example, enter the value 2615 for operating RPM.

Enter data changing the kerf width to 0.140 in and plate thickness to 0.100 in The next different color cell describes the number of teeth

The program automatically defaults to a number of teeth which will give a 0.038" bite/tooth. Here, enter 54.

The load index printout confirms that the system is still within range. These changes are practical options to try.

The new screen is shown below.

Run Program Screen Jump File Exit Program SCREEN #6 Registered to: THIN KERF TECH			
FINAL DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS	Alt.Calc.#1	Alt.Calc.#2	
Spline diameter 6.000	6.000		
Outside saw diameter 22.000	22.000		
Plate thickness 0.120	0.100		
Operating rpm 3100	2615		
Maximum depth of cut 6.000	6.000		
Minimum depth of cut 2.000	2.000		
Kerf width 0.160	0.140		
Feed Speed 450.000	450.000		l
Specific Cutting Energy 35.000	35.000		
Number of teeth 44	54		
Side Clearances 0.020	0.020		
Tooth spacing 1.571	1.279		
Bite/tooth 0.040	0.038		
Gullet area below tooth 0.238	0.240		
Cutting horsepower 105.000	91.875		
Load Index 0.371	0.665		
Lowest Critical Speed 3138.295	2615.245		
Cycle through the values	s again (y/n)?	N	

Make further adjustments by changing values as you wish. The format for Alternate # 2 can be used to compare specification changes.AS AN EXAMPLEset the plate thickness even lower at 0.095" while keeping the same kerf.Reduce operating RPM to 2400 with side clearance at 0.022.....assess the readout.

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The output screen shows that with the changes that were made the load index tolerance has been exceeded and is more than 0.8. These specifications would not allow the saw to cut accurately and should not be used..

Run Program Screen Jump File Exit Program SCREEN #6 Registered to: THIN KERF TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

FINAL DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS		Alt.Calc.#1	Alt.Calc.#2
Spline diameter	6.000	6.000	6.000
Outside saw diameter	22.000	22.000	22.000
Plate thickness	0.120	0.100	0.095
Operating rpm	3100	2615	2400
Maximum depth of cut	6.000	6.000	6.000
Minimum depth of cut	2.000	2.000	2.000
Kerf width	0.160	0.140	0.140
Feed Speed	450.000	450.000	450.000
Specific Cutting Energy	35.000	35.000	35.000
Number of teeth	44	54	58
Side Clearances	0.020	0.020	0.022
Tooth spacing	1.571	1.279	1.191
Bite/tooth	0.040	0.038	0.038
Gullet area below tooth	0.238	0.240	0.257
Cutting horsepower	105.000	91.875	91.875
Load Index	0.371	0.665	0.845
Lowest Critical Speed	3138.295	2615.245	2484.483

Cycle through the values again (y/n)? N

We trust you will find this program to be practical and helpful

If you have any problems or need help, please contact us at:



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