



SAWING TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

No. 2

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CALIFORNIA SAW & KNIFE WORKS



WITH BETTER GRADES, YOU CAN GO FARTHER

All of us learned long ago about the positive impact that improving grades can have on our future. The upside of good grades applies in a saw mill just as it did in school. Higher grades can mean extra revenue. And getting those grades is easy.

Today, we face chronic worldwide overproduction of lumber. As a result, prices are depressed. That makes every dollar of revenue that you can wring out of a log more important than ever. Top lumber grades like J-Grade, Select Dimension, and Shop and Moulding Grades take on even more appeal because—even in this difficult price environment—there are still buyers who are willing to pay more for better wood. So when, for instance, J-Grade commands about twice as much per 1000 bd. ft. as ordinary grade lumber (and the multiples for Shop and Moulding are even greater), it's worth stemming the all too common degrade caused by sawing errors.

You may not realize how much your grades are suffering. How can you be sure you're getting the best grades possible? And if you're not, what should you do to get more dollars from the same logs, using the same manpower and millpower?

STAINLESS STEEL
SAWS WILL REDUCE
GRADE LOSS
BECAUSE THEY
AUTOMATICALLY SAW
MORE ACCURATELY
THAN OTHER SAW
BLADES UNDER
ALMOST ANY SET OF
SAWING CONDITIONS.



HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN LOSE VALUABLE GRADE DURING SAWING

Grade is lost way too frequently to two common defects linked to saw plate flexibility. These are double arbor offset and single arbor wedging. In both instances, the resulting problem—planer skip—occurs on the board in the area farthest from the saw guides. In double arbor machines, that's in the interior of the board, due to the mismatch between top and bottom blades. In single arbor machines, it's the far edge of the board, opposite the guides.

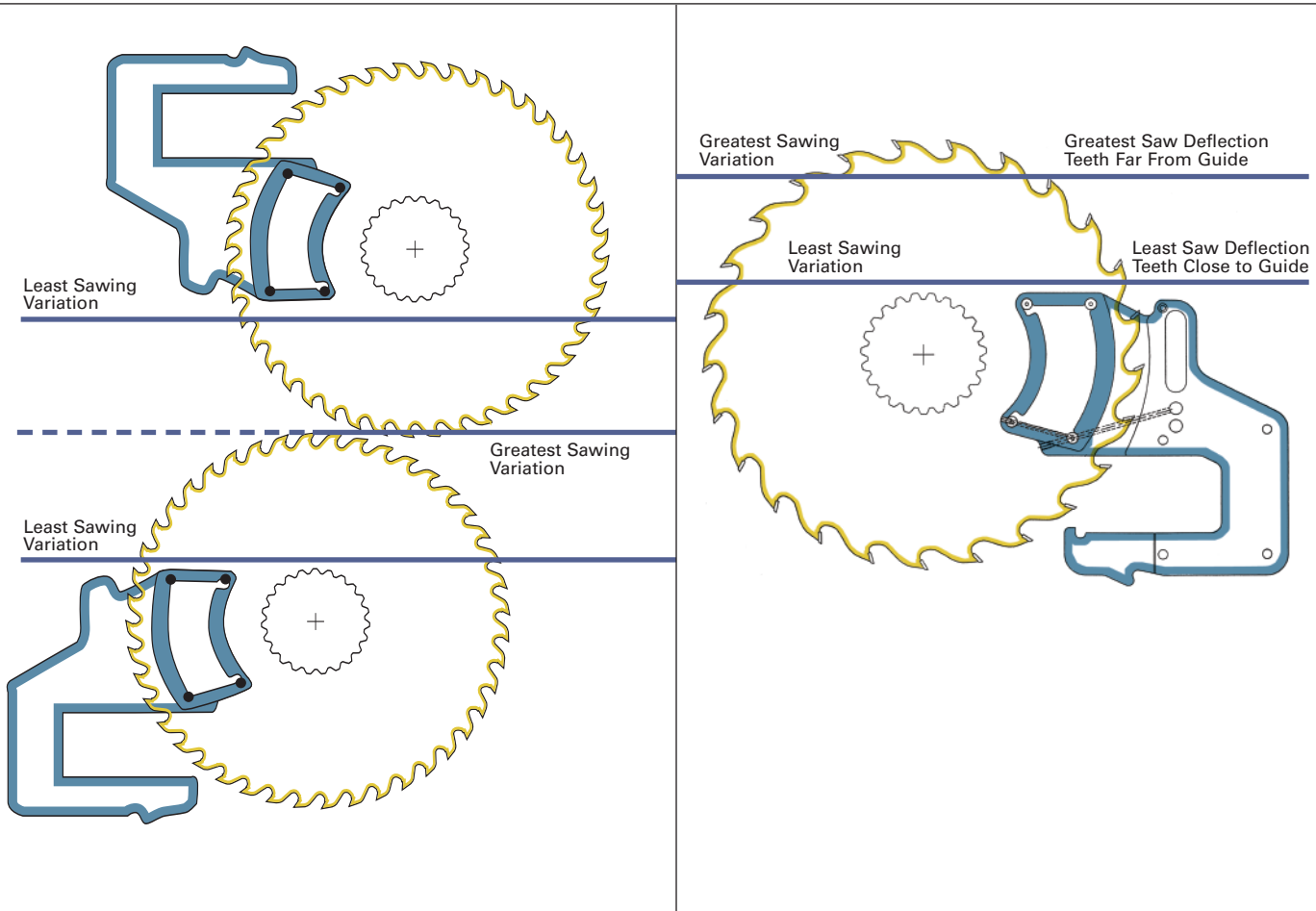
STAINLESS STEEL SAWS IMPROVE LUMBER GRADES

Stainless steel saws are stiffer in the cut and stronger than alloy steel saws. That stiffness translates to more accurate sawing under almost all cutting conditions. And that gives you more lumber that you can sell at higher prices.

Stainless steel saws cut truer in those areas of the board where blade flexibility can affect accuracy—and grade—the most. To review the qualities that make stainless steel saws stiffer and more precise, take a look at our previous Sawing Technology Update (please call us for a copy and to get on our mailing list for these periodic sawing research and mill test results publications).

DISTANCE FROM GUIDE = LESS PRECISE SAWING = LUMBER GRADE LOSS.

A STIFFER SAW BLADE REDUCES SAWING INACCURACY, PROTECTS GRADE AND LOCKS IN HIGHER PRICES.



THESE MILLS RAISED LUMBER GRADES AND IMPROVED PROCESS RELIABILITY

FOR SOME MILLS, THE IMPROVEMENTS OBTAINED WITH STAINLESS STEEL SAWS WERE AN UNEXPECTED BUT WELCOME SURPRISE. AND OTHER THAN PUTTING ON THE SAWS, NONE HAD TO MAKE ANY SPECIAL ADJUSTMENT TO THEIR NORMAL MILL ROUTINE TO ACHIEVE THESE RESULTS.

Weyerhaeuser

Dallas, Oregon

Rather than just measuring board thickness along the edge of Douglas fir boards, Quality Control decided to measure and track offset in a 12-inch curve sawing gang, and to correlate the results with the grade distribution from the planing mill. The mill replaced its chrome-plated blades with stainless steel saws and reduced average mismatch by 35%. The corresponding reduction in planer skip increased the amount of Select Dimension lumber that they were able to obtain from 8-, 10- and 12-inch boards by more than 50%. The payoff is now approaching \$1 million in extra revenue per year. In addition, the mill discovered how important it was to link the quality control processes in the saw mill and the planer.

Carter Holt Harvey

Tokoroa, New Zealand

Severe grade loss meant unacceptable revenue loss to this mill, which sells in both the domestic and export markets. But severe grade loss is what they got when cutting radiata pine in a 13-inch double arbor gang for a full shift using alloy steel saws. Their remedy was stainless steel saws, which maintained grade levels through the entire shift and required less of the filers' attention as well.

Weyerhaeuser

Kamloops, British Columbia

Unscheduled saw changes were an ongoing problem for this mill. Each time it had to change saws due to excessive double arbor offset, the entire production process was adversely affected. Downtime was cutting into revenue. With stainless steel saws, the mill has reduced its unscheduled saw changes by roughly 50% because these saws cut straighter, longer.

Regulus Stud

St. Maries, Idaho

Accuracy is vital to this mill. Its unusually tight green target size allows only a small margin for sawing error. Because the saw filers collect and monitor all lumber size data, they're keenly aware of the connection between saw condition and sawing accuracy. To hold to their strict size standards (while reducing throw aways and maintenance time), they replaced their chrome plated saws with stainless steel saws. The results: the .058 inch thick stainless steel plates reduced sawing variation, virtually eliminated gullet wear and decreased the filing room's leveling workload.



GET MORE REVENUE FROM YOUR WOOD WITH NO ADDED EFFORT

Many mills simply don't know what they're giving up in lumber grade and revenue. In fact, they may not realize the cost of sawing inaccurately. So take a closer look at your lumber to estimate the value lost to excessive double arbor offset or single arbor wedging. You don't have to accept the lumber grades you're producing. You can produce more J-Grade, Select Dimension, or Shop and Moulding Grades—and improve your revenue now.

REMEMBER THE BENEFITS OF STAINLESS STEEL SAWS

- Their stiffness and strength mean they cut straighter.
- Straighter cutting costs you less in lumber downgrade and mill downtime.
- They're more durable and last longer than other saws.
- They're easier to maintain, freeing filers to focus on other tasks.
- Ultimately, they cost less to own.
- In addition to your saws, we provide you with ongoing, expert support for your sawing needs before and after your purchase. Our **Total Saw Technology Package** provides integrated solutions for your blade, equipment and service concerns.

PLEASE CONTACT US TO DISCUSS YOUR MILL'S SAWING NEEDS OR TO REQUEST MORE OF OUR RESEARCH CONCERNING STAINLESS AND ALLOY STEEL SAWS.

CALL 888-729-6533 OR EMAIL STAINLESS@CALSAW.COM.



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