

Case Study: Boral Bricks

Industry: Wood Processing

Application: Sawdust, wood chips, bark, and branches

Equipment: Schutte-Buffero Model 44-24-301B fine grinding hammermill

“The plant operation is not profitable without using wood as an ingredient. Our Schutte-Buffero grinder addition solved our quality control problem and we now have better material than we were ever able to buy before.”

– Greg Camp,
Plant Manager, Boral Bricks



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The Leaders in Size Reduction

BRICK OPERATION IMPROVED WITH FULL CIRCLE HAMMERMILL

The Challenge

A carefully metered flow of hammer milled wood waste is blended with typical brick ingredients prior to extrusion. After kiln firing, the wood is converted to carbon, resulting in a strong, lighter weight brick. The use of wood as an ingredient eliminates 1/3 of the total brick weight, translating to lower operational costs.

The company could no longer rely on its past supplier of good quality sawdust. Other locally purchased screened sawdust often contained oversized material in the mix which resulted in higher breakages at the plant. A smaller more uniform quality wood sawdust would need to be produced. However, the suppliers were unable to use a smaller screen size to eliminate the large particles.

The Solution

A Schutte-Buffero Model 44-24-301B fine grinding hammermill was installed at the plant to process raw wood waste material. Configured with an integrated auger, and vacuum discharge to a cyclone, the system immediately produced 6-mesh material at the desired throughput rate of seven tons per hour. In addition, the low pressure pneumatic system also solved a material handling problem by depositing the sawdust from below the roofline so that mobile equipment could access the area and transfer the sawdust to the brick mixer.

The Result

With complete control over the wood supply and uniformity of the end product, the plant realized a very quick payback on their investment.

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