

Dotson Dispatch



Survival in an increasing competitive world market means that if you rest you will rust. Dotson replaced 100% of our core equipment in 1999. In 2000, we replaced 100% of our furnace charging and preheating equipment. We installed North America's first automatic grinding centers for jobbing castings in 2002. In March of 2004, we will install a new molding line with automatic core setting and North America's first automatic pouring line in a jobbing foundry. The Dotson Company has not been resting and we will not rust.

Dotson Capabilities:

- Gray Iron
- Ductile Iron
- Austempered Ductile Iron
- Carbide ADI
- 1 to 75 Pounds
- Machining
- Painting
- Plating
- Assembly

The Summit

If the vision is “becoming the world’s most automated jobbing foundry”, you recognize very early that you cannot do it by yourself. Our partner for automation of our grinding, sand handling, molding and pouring areas is Roberts Sinto.

This is the U.S. subsidiary of the Japanese company SintoKogio (one of the world’s largest foundry equipment suppliers).



Going back a few years, my first visit to Japan and to Sinto was in 1995. I was very impressed with the FBO molding machines and was convinced that when our foundry needed another molding line, it would be a Sinto FBO. The sales people from Roberts Sinto called on a regular basis, but with the downturn in the economy, the purchase was always in the future. During these visits, the engineers at Roberts Sinto got to know us better and understood that one of our desires was to automate the grinding operation. The timing was perfect for Dotson foundry to be the first foundry in North American to purchase the Sinto Koyama Barinders.

The Barinders were a tremendous success, exceeding our expectations. The support from Sinto and Koyama has been excellent. Each of the over twenty foundries that visited our operation has put the Barinders on their equipment wish list. For Dotson, the next step was our long postponed molding line. The FBO was our molding machine of choice. Dick Stewart and the people from Roberts Sinto had another great idea. Dotson should be the first foundry outside of Japan to install the Sinto Fujiwa Denki EconoPour system. This automatic pouring system, when added to the FBO molding machine with the automatic core setter, would

provide Dotson with a one person molding/pouring line producing over 140 molds per hour and with in-cycle pattern changeover.

We confirmed the purchase of this new line from Sinto during my July trip to Japan. This trip also included one of the great adventures of my life. For some crazy reason, a year ago I had suggested to Dick Stewart that we should climb Mt. Fuji. Both of us are nearing 60 and needed a challenge to get us back in “fighting shape”. We even convinced a number of our Sinto friends and my son, Andrew, to climb with us.

On July 26, 2003, at 6:30 a.m. we started up the mountain in the cold and rain. After two hours of climbing, I was convinced that this adventure was a big mistake and that we were never going to get to the top. The rain continued for the entire climb, but when we reached the summit it didn’t make any difference – **we had climbed Mt. Fuji!** Atchi Nagai carried a bottle of Champaign and the celebration started. Hot noodles never tasted so good. We impressed our friends and families with cell phone calls made from the top. After an hour, it was time for the descent. At the bottom, both Dick and I had legs that would barely do what we asked. Finally, twelve hours after our start, we had completed our adventure and were on the bus to the hotel.



Atchi Nagai celebrating at the summit



Takeshi Hirayama, Atchi Nagai, Dick Stewart, Denny Dotson, Andrew Dotson and Masamoto Naito – After the Mt. Fuji Climb



Denny Dotson receiving a cast incense burner from Yuzuru Nagai, chairman of SintoKogio

Returning home it is clear that we have a great partner with Sinto but it was also clear that we have some very good friends in Japan.

President, The Dotson Company
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Jazz and Blues Legends

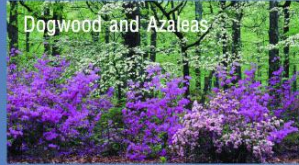
MISSOURI

THE SHOW ME STATE

Statehood Date: August 10, 1821



St. Louis Skyline



Dogwood and Azaleas

Motto: Let the welfare of the people be the supreme law.
Capital: Jefferson City
Flower: Hawthorn
Tree: Flowering Dogwood
Bird: Bluebird
Population: 5,630,8700

From the Great Plains to the Ozark Mountains, Missouri's people are about as different as the jazz-and-blues legends from Kansas City to old-time country fiddlers in the hollers.

For those who enjoy exploring off-the-beaten-path places, Missouri lays claim to a 317-mile stretch of historic Route 66, the Mother Road. The beautiful dogwood and azaleas enhance the state with a rich tapestry of many colors, cultures and traditions.

American Indian warriors, as well as pioneers such Lewis and Clark, were drawn to the vast waterways of the

Mississippi and Missouri rivers, the abundant land and wildlife. The legendary Daniel Boone, Jesse James, and Thomas Jefferson all left their mark on Missouri's towns and countryside. Harry S. Truman, 33rd president of the US, is best remembered as the man from Independence.

The Mule was chosen as the official state animal in 1995. Known for its strength, hardiness, intelligence, even temper—and healthy stubbornness—the mule has come to symbolize Missouri.

DENVER MINT

PHILADELPHIA MINT

24th in a Series of 50



Dotson
IRON
CASTINGS
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