

Mole•Master's Junior™ 360°: dealing with clogged grain silos safely and quickly

ERADICATING SAFETY CONCERNS, EXPEDITING CLEANOUT

There are significant obstacles to face when a grain silo becomes clogged. First, traditionally, cleaning out a grain silo or bin has required human entry. A worker is lowered into the silo and using various hand tools, the material is slowly knocked off the walls to clear blockages. Tragically, the dangers inherent in this methodology have been demonstrated far too many times. When material becomes unstable inside a silo, it can easily give way, leaving the worker stuck or, worst of all, buried inside the silo.

Another obstacle when faced with cleaning out a grain silo is loss of saleable material. Depending on the cleaning method being used, material may be damaged or, if contaminated, can't be used because of health or other concerns.

The Junior™ 360° from Mole•Master Services Corporation, an expert in the silo cleaning industry, helps to address both of these and many other concerns.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

The Junior™ 360° Series represents a technological breakthrough in equipment for the silo and bin cleaning industry. The Junior™ Series restores lost storage capacity quickly, safely, and economically. The fully adjustable boom and crane bearing mount allow the unit to provide complete 360° coverage of the vessel's interior wall(s) from the initial set-up position. The unique modular design means the equipment can be easily set up and operated in virtually any vessel, regardless of the size or shape.

There are two different models of the Junior™ 360°. One is hydraulically actuated and the other is pneumatic. However, both versions share a few key features.

Perhaps the key to the Junior™ 360° is the unique 360° bearing, which allows for infinite positioning of the cutting head. The cutting head can accommodate interchangeable blades, flails, or chain cutters that are engineered to safely remove a wide variety of materials.

The Junior™ was engineered to be easy to use and quick to set up. The lightweight aluminium construction means the

Junior™ is easy to transport and assemble. The hose reel is independent from the boom assembly which allows for easier set-up in close quarters.

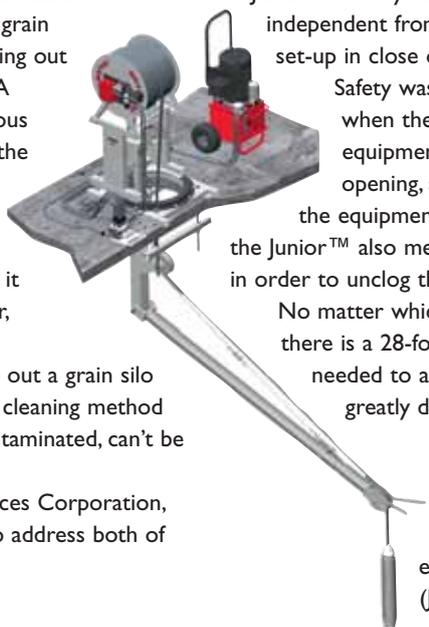
Safety was of course also a significant consideration when the Junior™ 360° was being designed. The equipment can be positively mounted to the vessel opening, and custom mount bases are available so that the equipment can be adapted to any roof opening. Using the Junior™ also means that nobody has to enter the silo or bin in order to unlog the material.

No matter which version of the Junior™ is being used, there is a 28-foot (8.5m) reach that provides the flexibility needed to adapt to all kinds of vessels that may vary greatly dimensionally.

MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY

The Junior™ 360° is flexible by nature, but Mole•Master expanded the capabilities of the equipment by engineering a hydraulic model (JR360H) and a pneumatic model (JR360P).

The JR360H Model provides greater torque and a higher operating speed for the operator. This model also offers the smallest cutting head available on the market (5in or 12.7cm) which allows it to fit into the tightest flow channels or 'ratholes'.



The JR360P is particularly ideal for the grain industry because there is no danger of contamination. No hydraulic fluid is used with this model, so in addition to the standard benefits of the Junior™, grain silo owners can feel confident that their material can be salvaged while their silo is being cleaned out.

WHEN TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

Regardless of the industry, a clogged silo or any type of storage vessel is a serious problem that can slow or even stop productivity. The grain industry, however, has another dimension of complexity that not all industries share. The nature of grain storage is that the material can build up very quickly. Once a blockage presents itself, the clock is ticking to solve the problem before it becomes progressively worse. The need for speed may at times even outweigh the known risk factors involved with human entry. The urgency can create an overwhelming amount of pressure on all involved.

The flexibility and ease-of-use that the Junior™ 360° provides eradicates the safety concerns while also expediting the actual clean-out procedure. The silo owner can rest assured that the job will be done quickly, safely, and efficiently, and that material loss will be at a minimum.

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