

Elk River Machine Company

Acromix Batch Plants

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the cycle time of your equipment?

For estimating purposes we use 4-5 minutes per cycle. The batcher moves at 90 feet per minute, and stops under each bin for approximately 20 seconds. Lifting and dumping the material then returning to the carriage will consume another minute. Generally the cycle time of the mixer will not be the limiting factor in concrete production. Normally we ask the producer how long it will take to return to the mixer for another batch?

Do you use conveyors?

Acromix plants use conveyors in many applications. We have also built decumulating bins and batched water by weight. The typical Acromix plant is constructed to have the smallest footprint possible. The traveling weigh batcher is not held hostage to inclines and measures only what is put in the bucket rather than what remains in the bin. The traveling batcher is also cleaner, and lower in maintenance cost than conveyors. We know of no better way to accurately and consistently measure material.

What about cement?

Bulk cement can be handled in a number of ways. Acromix plants can come equipped with overhead cement batchers, screw conveyors and cement Silos of virtually any volume. Cement is fed directly into the mixer; cleanly, accurately, consistently and efficiently. ERMC may recommend a stand under the cement silo to reduce the pitch and length of the screw conveyor, resulting in lower initial cost for the screw auger, as well as potential savings in maintenance cost. Economical means of handling cement may also include a dust cover attached to the plant over the batcher track. The silo may sit astride the track and discharge directly into the traveling weigh batcher through the dust cover or the silo can be remotely located employing a screw auger to the dust cover. Further economies may realized with "Super-Sack" hoppers, or even bag breaking grills attached to the plant frame.

What controls do you offer?

Acromix plants are typically quoted with manual controls where the operator is in charge of operating the system through a series of buttons and joy-sticks located in a console at the mixer platform. Options include PLC plant automation that may include up to six (6) admixtures, two (2) cements and four(4) aggregates. Bin sensors may also be furnished for microwave moisture compensation. Acromix PLC controls will provide the accuracy and reliability you need with Self-Compacting-Concrete or earth-moist dry tamp mixes.

Acromix Batch Plants

Controls (Cont.)

ERMC *EASY TOUCH II* PC controls are a *Windows* based system with virtually unlimited capability and flexibility. *EASY TOUCH II* will be quoted on a job specific basis.

How long have you been building batch plants?

Elk River Machine Company has been serving the construction industries for over four decades. From modest beginnings in 1961, ERMC has grown to include an 80,000 s.f. facility with machining and welding capabilities unrivalled in the industry. *Acromix Systems* has been an important part of ERMC since 1998. *Acromix* already enjoyed a national reputation for equipment “Built For Stout”. Since the acquisition, ERMC has enhanced and improved the image with equipment innovatively engineered, and built for decades of reliable consistent service with a minimum of maintenance.

What about mixers?

ERMC / *Acromix* builds horizontal shaft mixers with models from ½ yard through 4 yard. *Acromix* mixers use a minimum of moving parts, which reduces maintenance and repair expense. ERMC utilizes the unique cutting, welding and computer capabilities to standardize models and produce identical mixers from state of the art engineering and drafting files. *Acromix* mixers employ full-size main shafts, full size bearings and enough horsepower to do the intended job. The exclusive *Labyrinth* main bearing seal keeps concrete slurry from traveling to the main bearing. *Acromix* mixers are easy to maintain for years of heavy duty, faithful service. ERMC also has access to mixers of virtually any style and size from a number of suppliers; counter-current, twin shaft, standard pan mixers and others from 1/3 yd on up.

Can you furnish cement silos and screw augers?

Yes. ERMC has excellent contacts for cement silos, screw augers, small volume batchers (down to 1 cu ft.), belt conveyors and other handling equipment. ERMC will be pleased to quote the entire system package. In addition to a history of serving the construction industries, ERMC has people with *cement under the finger nails* from decades of “hands-on” experience in concrete.

Who do I call for repair parts?

Acromix mixers and batch plants are built in Elk River Minnesota. Manuals are complete with part numbers from the original suppliers. Many replacement parts are available to you locally. Repair and replacement components are either built in our shop or drop shipped directly from the original supplier. ERMC employs no outside agents or service technicians for repair parts. Your inquiry is processed quickly and efficiently with many parts shipped out of inventory the same day.

Please remember one number for parts and service
Toll Free: 877.433.3762 (ERMC).

Acromix Batch Plants

What if I lose power while the batcher bucket is being elevated to the mixer?

The typical Acromix batch plant employs a time tested and proven hydraulic lifting system without the use of sheaves, cables or winches. The hydraulic cylinders are equipped with *counter-balance valves* as a fail-safe mechanism. In the rare and unlikely event of power failure, or broken hydraulic hose, the batcher bucket will stay in place, even in an elevated position and under full load .

What are self-leveling bins?

While we are not intimately familiar with the term “self leveling”, the term has been used to describe *decumulating* bin scales. Decumulating scales measure what remains in the bin after the aggregate material has been drawn for each batch. Acromix batch plants employ the traveling batcher bucket on compression load cells, which measures only the material called for. All weighing systems are accurate to within a percentage of what is being measured. Accuracy and repeatability are increased by weighing smaller quantities.

Is installation difficult?

The ease of assembly will be directly related to the complexity of the batch plant geometry. All Acromix batch plant components are tested prior to shipment. In many cases the plant is completely preassembled at the factory for testing, then disassembled for shipment. All Acromix batch plants arrive at the jobsite in major components for a minimum of on-site assembly. Hydraulics are pre-plumbed and the plant is pre-wired. Where plants cannot be shipped as a single unit the wiring terminates in junction boxes located appropriately on the batch plant frame. Acromix batch plants are designed to be assembled by your plant personnel. You will be responsible for the water and air hook-up to the plant and you will need a local tradesman to supply the electrical service to the batch plant.

Will you train us to run the equipment?

Yes. Plant start-up and controls training of up to three days on-site are included in the base price of the plant. The ERMC technician dispatched to your site will expect to complete training of your personnel, and make concrete before leaving your site.