



XTRACTOR FAQ'S



Q: WHAT IS AN XTRACTOR?

A: It is a stainless steel construction hydraulic ram press specifically designed to extract liquid products from various forms of packaging.

Q: WHAT ARE XTRACTORS USED FOR?

A: Typically it is used to crush liquid containers and drive out the liquid from the package to enable recycling of the packaging and in some cases it is also used to recover the recycle liquid. It may be used to remove the liquid before disposal of the packaging which greatly reduces the cost of disposal.

Q: WHY STAINLESS STEEL CONSTRUCTION, ISN'T THAT EXPENSIVE?

A: Most of the applications for this equipment are in a low PH environment that quickly causes coating failure and rust on standard grades of steel. The appearance and structural integrity of carbon steel equipment in this environment can quickly degrade. Most applications for this product involve food production, so cleanliness and appearance were given high priority.

Q: WHAT TYPES OF PRODUCTS IS THE XTRACTOR USED TO PROCESS?

A: Carbonated & Non-Carbonated Beverages, bottled water, dairy products, canned liquid products, aseptic packaged liquids etc...

Q: WHAT TYPES OF PACKAGING WORK WELL IN IT?

A: Aluminum Cans, Plastic Bottles, Cardboard Cartons etc... Most packaging works except for glass.

Q: CAN THE XTRACTOR PROCESS STEEL CANS?

A: It will work on large steel cans but we would recommend our High Density Extruder for most steel can applications. The High Density Extruder comes in larger sizes and allows more custom designed features.

Q: WHY ISN'T THE XTRACTOR RECOMMENDED FOR GLASS CONTAINERS?

A: Although it breaks the glass and drives out most of the liquid, broken glass is abrasive and greatly reduces the life of the machine and small pieces of glass will get into the liquid and collection pan.

Q: DOES THE BOTTLE OR CAN SIZE MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IN PERFORMANCE?

A: Yes, smaller packages (cans & bottles) in general are harder to burst and flatten than larger containers.

Q: DOES THE BOTTLE SIZE NEED TO BE CONSISTENT?

A: No, in plastic container applications one system but can run plastic bottles from 6 oz up to 1-2 gallon sizes but an optional Perforator is strongly recommended.

Q: WHAT IS A PERFORATOR?

A: It is a device which mounts above the Xtractor feed opening that punctures the containers entering the Xtractor.

Q: DO ALL APPLICATIONS REQUIRE A PERFORATOR?

A: It is not needed for all applications. For instance, aluminum cans do not require a perforator. A Perforator is recommended if maximum liquid extraction is desired from mixed size plastic containers. If maximum liquid removal is not required or if only large bottled product is processed it might not be needed.

Q: CAN I ADD A PERFORATOR AND/OR FEED CONVEYOR LATER IF I DECIDE I NEED IT?

A: Yes, the Xtractor feed opening is a square and symmetrical flange. The feed hopper can be unbolted and remounted above the Perforator or a different hopper added without cutting or welding. Control Items such as motor starters etc... will need to be installed by a qualified electrician.

Q: DO I NEED A PERFORATOR IF I AM PROCESSING ALUMINUM CANS?

A: If only cans are being processed, a perforator is not needed.



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Q: HOW DOES THE XTRACTOR WORK ON ALUMINUM SODA CANS?

A: It works very well on aluminum cans.

Q: CAN I RUN BOTH ALUMINUM CANS AND PLACTIC CONTAINERS THROUGH ONE SYSTEM?

A: Yes, we have many applications in beverage container reclamation that are doing this. The Perforator punctures both type containers but does not "rip" them up so they are still suitable for bailing. A perforator is recommended for PET & HDPE bottles.

Q: DO THE TWO PRODUCTS SEPARATE WELL AFTER RUNNING THROUGH THE XTRACTOR?

A: Yes, the aluminum and plastic has a very clear boundary that separates readily when each half is pulled apart.

Q: ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL PROCEDURES TO RUNNING BOTH ALUMINUM AND PLASTIC?

A: Yes, some common sense operating practices are required. The operator must let all of the product type he is running be completely processed and visually inspect the equipment for product that is "hung up" anywhere in the system and clear it before beginning to process the second material. When the second material has been pushed out of the discharge of the Xtractor, he must pull the two apart at the boundary and make sure only the correct materials end up in whatever collection bins are used.

Q: WHAT DOES THE XTRACTOR DISCHARGE INTO?

A: The discharge receptacle varies with application and user preference. The most common choices are wheeled cart, Gaylord Box or directly into a compactor. Optional discharge chutes can be used to discharge materials at a higher level than the normal Xtractor discharge height such as into a horizontal baler.

Q: HOW MUCH ENERGY DOES IT REQUIRE TO OPERATE?

A: The Xtractor uses a 7.5 KW (10 HP) motor to drive a hydraulic pump. Actual electrical use would typically be less than 7.5 KWH per hour of operation. This is less than one half of the energy required by some competing products.

Q: DOES THE XTRACTOR REQUIRE THREE PHASE ELECTRICITY?

A: Yes, 460 Volt, 3ph is recommended. 230 Volt, 3ph is optional.

Q: WHAT ABOUT SERVICE AND SUPPORT?

A: We have a network of service providers in the USA and the Xtractor has a Phone Modem for remote support from our factory technicians. An optional maintenance Interface or Ethernet connection for the PLC is also available.