

Mobile Conveyor Jibs

The general run of sheet metal work tends to call for welds of some length. The job of fabricating a jib for a mobile conveyor, such as the MA Mark 2 manufactured by C H Johnson (Machinery) Ltd, of Stockport, Cheshire, involves the exact opposite, namely, a very large number of relatively short welds, each of which, however, must be of first-class quality.

This conveyor is one of a range designed for the mechanical handling of a variety of loose bulk materials, the photograph below showing a 42 ft (12.8 m) centres conveyor with a 24 in (609 mm) wide belt. The MA Mark 2 is manufactured in various models, in lengths from 40 ft to 62 ft between centres, with capacities up to 100 tons/hr (101 tonnes/hr), and with discharge heights up to 20 ft (6 m). This, and other conveyors in the Johnson range, are specially suitable for ship loading, because of the large range of elevation and big overhang from the wheels, giving maximum reach into the ship's hold. Ideal in confined spaces, they are not dependent on rail heads and can operate from any type of harbour. For the heavy duty which these light, yet rigid, machines are required to perform, it is obviously necessary that their welding should be of a high standard. As our photograph shows, the jib is built up of a number of different sections, the main structure being of tubular design. Each tube length is accurately shaped to permit precise fitting before welding, which is completed with the Lynx II equipment, which has been installed in tandem, so that welding may proceed simultaneously down both sides of the jib.

Here, as is always found with Lynx II, there has been an increase in welding speed, but in this instance it is less easy to calculate than in others. One of the reasons for this is that speed alone, in this application, is not necessarily the most important point, though naturally any development which results in increased productivity is desirable. More important than sheer speed is the quality of the job, and it is in this connexion that Johnsons have found their Lynx installation of the utmost value. High quality welds are consistently produced with far greater precision than could be expected from even the most expert manual welder.

Below The Johnson M A Mark 2 Conveyor, fabricated with Lynx II MIG/CO₂ welding equipment



Below Two Lynx II wire feed units are installed so that welding can proceed simultaneously down both sides of a jib

