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Stoltz Manufacturing Celebrating 75th Anniversary as a Global Leader In Construction, Agricultural Spreaders Introduced a unique, more productive lime spreader for farmers following end of World War II

MORGANTOWN, PA – Stoltz Manufacturing (<http://www.stoltzmfg.com/>), a leading manufacturer of construction and agricultural spreaders, is celebrating its 75th anniversary, building on its reputation as a global leader. Stoltz makes more than two dozen different spreaders that are sold mostly in the United States, but also in other countries. More than 5,500 are in operation.

The breakthrough agricultural lime spreader was invented by founder Christian Umbolt (“C.U.”) Stoltzfus following the end of World War 2 in 1945. He was a 33-year-old farmer and a limestone quarry operator who sought a way to minimize the dust clouds generated when he spread lime on his fields.

Stoltzfus built a truck-mounted drop spreader that distributed powdered lime, bone meal and rock phosphate close to the ground through evenly spaced holes in metal booms, each extending 15 feet horizontally from the machine’s center.

Many owners cite the durability and ruggedness of Stoltzfus spreaders, which can run for decades in the toughest of operating conditions, a legacy that is carried on today, according to Bernard Hershberger, the company’s president representing the third generation of the family.

Though his design has been updated and refined over 75 years, it remains the benchmark process for applying dry flowing materials, including lime which is essential to growing crops because it neutralizes the soil’s acidity.

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Stoltzfus' ingenuity continued. In 1976 he invented a wet lime spreader, enabling farmers to backhaul truckloads of inexpensive lime, stockpile it in their fields and apply it when conditions were favorable. The spreader was capable of applying high volumes of wet lime without the bridging problems associated with stockpiled lime. Spreader sales doubled for the company.

Ten years later, Stoltzfus perfected his bulk material spreader that could accommodate not only lime, but also bulkier materials such as chicken litter, biosolids and compost—the first spreader to combine these fertilizers in a single machine.

In 1991, Stoltzfus introduced the Redhawk Ground Driven Spreader, the first with a dual-contact press wheel that combined the load breakout strength of his wet lime spreader with the accuracy of a ground-driven machine.

In 1995, the company introduced its second distinct product line of pneumatically loaded soil stabilization spreaders to the construction industry.

Sold under the Stoltz Site Spreader[®] brand name, they also revolutionized an industry as construction companies were finally able to apply large quantities of lime, cement, fly ash, quick lime and other materials accurately and with minimal dust.

Site spreaders are mainly used for soil stabilization and remediation and full depth reclamation work.

A few years later, the company introduced yet another significant product, the Stoltz Site Spreader Controller, which combines all spreader control functions into a single interface. Initially designed for the company's low-dust dual auger style spreaders, it has been adapted to the conveyor chain-style spreaders.

The company was incorporated as C.U. Stoltzfus Mfg., Inc. in 1968. The founder served as president and chairman of the board until his death in 2000 at age 88. In 2009, the name was changed to Stoltz Mfg., LLC.

Hershberger said that in addition to its spreader lines, Stoltz Manufacturing has established a large domestic and overseas dealer network and an excellent reputation for customer service and response to the need for parts. "Our website also has a significant amount of technical information to help owners use our spreaders, for example, application rate charts, truck chassis selection guides and tractor recommendations."

But the bottom line, said Hershberger, is that today's Stoltz spreaders maintain the quality the founder built into the first one he sold.

"We have a core group of quality employees who manufacture every Stoltz spreader in our plant in Morgantown in southeastern Pennsylvania. Our machines are built with the best steel, fully welded and manufactured to last a lifetime. 'C.U.' would be proud of how we are carrying on his legacy."

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