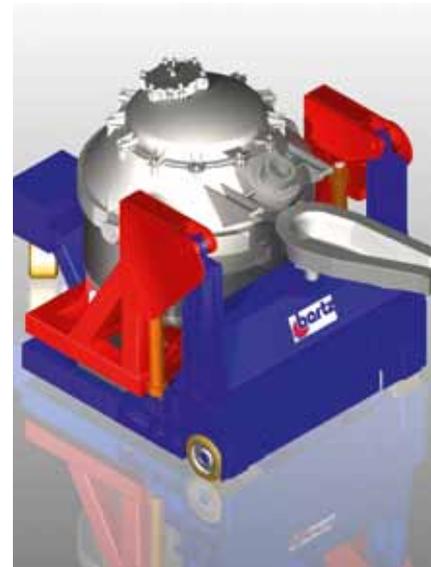


Castofix – the new mobile crucible tipping device



Bartz Maschinenbau GmbH | Robert-Bosch-Straße 14 + 18 | 56727 Mayen | Germany

Phone: +49 2651 49 30 - 0 | Fax: +49 2651 48 75 8 | info@bartz-maschinenbau.de | www.bartz-maschinenbau.de



Castofix – ideal molten-metal crucible handling in foundries

For more than 20 years, Bartz Maschinen- und Anlagenbau has made innovative machine and installation construction products that are notable for their superb quality and long service life. Thanks to the company's close cooperation with aluminium manufacturers, Bartz has successfully developed practical products and solutions that meet customers' everyday needs and that take account of the entire economic situation in the relevant sectors. The latest outcome of this process is Bartz's development of a mobile crucible tipping device.

Some 50 percent of the aluminium alloys needed by today's foundries are still deployed as block material owing to the lack of options that allow for direct processing of molten aluminium. Thus such mate-

rials need to be remelted, which, of course, means not only that energy ranging from 200 to 1200 kWh per ton must be used a second time, but also that 1.5 to 5 percent metal loss is incurred as the result of aluminium oxidation. Moreover, use of a smelting furnace entails elevated capital expenditures for procurement, as well as high maintenance and operating costs over the life of the furnace.

As a molten-metal technology leader, Bartz has already broken new ground in the field of crucible handling and operation, and is now launching its Castofix solution with a view to optimising crucible operation flexibility and enabling manufacturers to use molten metal, which is a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly solution.



Advantages of the Castofix crucible tipping device

- Automobile device (for crucibles containing five to six tons of molten metal) with an electric motor
- No pollutant emissions
- Very compact and robust design
- Easy to use (requires only one hour of training)
- Compatible with heating stations and other components in our portfolio
- Marketed directly via Bartz (no middleman)
- Fast delivery, also on a loan basis
- All components used conform with the relevant Western European standard

Interested foundries can test out the device for four weeks with no obligation. To this end, Bartz will be stocking ready to ship devices for all customers who wish to test out this innovative crucible tipping solution.

Comparison between block materials and molten aluminium

	Block material	Molten aluminium	Savings
Economics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Burn-off • CO₂ 	Repeated smelting	Heat of fusion used once only	Energy: 700 to 1,200 kWh/t Burn-off: Approx. 1.5 - 5 % CO ₂ : 150 - 250 kg/t
Logistics	Several handling operations	Just-in-time delivery to smelting furnace or ladle	Low handling costs, somewhat higher transport costs for molten aluminium
Storage costs	Heavy capital commitment, storage space	No storage needed due to just-in-time delivery	Excellent savings opportunities for foundries – depending on cost structure
Other costs	Investment in smelting furnace, operating costs	Low investment, low maintenance, very low operating costs	Substantial savings potential, quantifiable by cost-benefit analysis



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