



Gary Carlson Equipment Co.



Gary Carlson Equipment Co. (GCE) specializes in the rental and sale of wet- and dry-mix shotcrete and grouting equipment across North America. Founded in 2000, the company maintains a large inventory of shotcrete pumps, guns, and grout plants for immediate shipment. “We usually have 15 to 20 shotcrete pumps, a dozen or so guns and pre-dampeners, and 20 to 25 grout plants in our fleet at any time,” said Gary Carlson, company President. Their centralized location in Minnesota allows them to ship anywhere in 2 or 3 days by truck.

For wet-mix shotcrete, GCE stocks high-pressure 50 to 60 yd³ (38 to 46 m³) pumps, the classic Allentown version PC20 yard ultra-smooth pump, and several mixer-and-pump combinations, including large refractory style bulk bag “rig” units and the 5 yd³ (3.8 m³) Putzmeister MAGNUM. GCE is

also adding to their fleet small, easily portable pumps for smaller repair jobs that used to be done with dry-mix shotcrete. The advent of high-pressure 1 in. (25 mm) high-velocity nozzles has opened up new ways to use small pumps for repair jobs.

On the dry-mix shotcrete side, GCE always has REED Lova and Sova bowl machines and Picolla and GRH cylinder-style guns. Electric and hydraulic-drive auger-style predampeners and a very broad range of stand-alone mixers are available from Easy Grout, Essick, and Imer to help contractors eliminate dust and reduce wear and rebound.

Grout plants and pumps range from the small CHEMGROUT hand- or air-powered piston pumps for a few gal./min (L/min) through 50 gal./min (190 L/min) colloidal plants with freestanding diesel or electric hydraulic power packs. High-pressure plunger machines for tiebacks and geotechnical jobs, low-pressure rotor stator machines for dam and tunnel grouting, and everything in between are available. Colloidal plants are available in both high- or low-pressure configuration.

GCE’s rental fleet is purchased new and ranges from brand new to a few hundred hours of use. Customers seem to appreciate getting a new pump or gun for their rental job. Unlike most rental companies, GCE will sell a used machine from the rental fleet at any time. This keeps their rental fleet with very low hours of use and looking sharp on the customer’s job site. The company constantly adds new units for rental so you will never get an old rental fleet item. A like-new fleet, coupled with a dedicated crew of mechanics, parts, and rental professionals, keeps the fleet up and customer repair calls to a minimum.



REED and Piccola dry guns and predampener



New Putzmeister diesel power gun predampener combo rig



Putzmeister bulk bag mixer pump



New and rental Chemgrout pumps

Carlson continued, “I got started in the shotcrete industry in the early 1980s. Our predecessor company, Carlson Equipment, was trying to grow our air compressor business. We identified sandblast and gunite customers as high-priority air customers. That led to a request from the Minnesota DOT to supply a gunite rig for the season. No other distributor was interested in renting this equipment, so we purchased a new Airplaco 423 rig and delivered it. Next, they wanted us to train users on how to operate the equipment, so we had a lot of learning to do to get that up and running. Not long after, a repair contractor asked where to get a ‘REED’ gun. So, I purchased two machines and became the REED dealer; a relationship that now spans almost 40 years.”

GCE is a customer-driven organization. Contractors can buy or rent equipment and get the machine and all the accessories needed to start the job immediately. Customer equipment repairs or rebuilds, parts, and accessories are available from stock. Training for contractor crews is available for many specialties. To learn more, visit their website at www.garycarlsonequip.com.

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