HIGHER TECHNICAL INSTITUTE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT DIPLOMA PROJECT

> DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A PORTABLE SHEET METAL CUTTER

> > M/802

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# DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A PORTABLE SHEET METAL CUTTER M/802

by

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#### CONTENTS

### Page

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## SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

## **CHAPTER 1**

	SHEARING MACHINES	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Machines with flat blades	1
1.3	Shearing machines using Rotary cutters	8
1.4	New Technology Sheet Metal Cutters	11
1.5	Portable Sheet Metal Cutter	15

## **CHAPTER 2**

	SHEARING	16
2.1	Introduction	16
2.2	The shearing process	16
2.3	Force and Work done in shearing	18

### CHAPTER 3

	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION	21
3.1	Introduction	21
3.2	Specifications of the portable sheet metal cutter	21
3.3	Main Body	22
3.4	Cutting wheel Mechanism	23
a)	Cutting Wheel Holder	23
b)	Cutting Wheel	24
c)	Cutting Wheel Guide	25

3.5	Cutting Blade	26
3.6	Blade Holder	27
3.7	Sheet Metal Holder	29
3.8	Lead Screw	30

### **CHAPTER 4**

	STRESS ANALYSIS	31
4.1	Introduction	31
4.2	Stress Analysis on the pin that holds the cutting wheel	31
4.3	Stress Analysis on the welds of the Main body	33
4.4	Conclusions	35

### **CHAPTER 5**

	COST ANALYSIS		36
5.1	Introduction		36
5.2	Direct Materials Cost		36
5.3	Direct Wages		38
5.4	Overheads	1	38
5.5	Direct or Prime Cost		39

CONCLUSION	40
REFERENCES	41
APPENDICES	42
DRAWINGS/ PARTS LIST	

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#### SUMMARY

#### **Design and Construction of a Portable Sheet Metal Cutter**

by Loizos Loizou and Joseph Miltiadou

The purpose of this project was to design and construct a portable sheet metal cutter that would be able to shear metal plates of 50 cm maximum width and 2 mm maximum thickness.

Firstly, an engineering approach was followed in order to obtain scientific and commercial information on existing sheet metal cutters. Then, the theory on shear was developed followed by the execution of appropriate design calculations and selection procedures of materials and dimensions. Also a stress and cost analysis was executed.

Finally, all the parts of the construction were manufactured, the portable sheet metal cutter was assembled and tested.

The project is divided into five chapters:

- CHAPTER 1 Shearing Machines
- CHAPTER 2 Shear
- CHAPTER 3 Design and Construction
- CHAPTER 4 Stress Analysis
- CHAPTER 5 / Cost Analysis

#### INTRODUCTION

After research studies through the Cyprus market to find machines for cutting sheet metals, it was observed that a great variety of machines exists.

Sheet metal can be sheared or cut to size from sheets in very many ways. The particular method chosen depends on several factors such as the size and shape of the parts required and the numbers off needed. The dimensional quality of the cutting in this work is not usually high, and varies slightly from one cutter to the next, the exceptions usually lie in the range of smaller sizes, where if the quantities are reasonable, the quality is high. The quality of shearing itself, however, has to be reasonable and the part free from any serious distortion.

A new type of sheet metal cutter was designed and constructed in order to satisfy the following objectives.

- a) Shear metal plates of 50 cm maximum width and 2 cm maximum thickness.
- b) Be portable, i.e. be easily carried to works outside of the workshop when necessary.

In order to succeed these, a certain procedure was followed, shown in the next chapters.