

Doonan's new high-efficiency, limited option flatbed plant EXCEEDS expectations.

Doonan has completed the move into our new high-efficiency plant and we are extremely pleased with the efficiency gains being realized in production. "We were confident we could significantly reduce the production time required to build trailers in this new plant, but we are extremely pleased with our abilities to now produce limited option flatbeds in our new plant and the first month's production is showing positive results", exclaimed Mike Gordy, Co-Manager. This efficiency allows the Company to pass additional savings onto its loyal dealer base.

The additional savings have been implemented into the next release of the Doonan® Quote Order Form, version 17.02b that will be released on February 1, 2017. But act quickly, as backlog for the product is now in to April.



January 18, 2017 marks the 5-year anniversary of the initial design change of the Chaparral™ model, which eliminated warranty claims related to beam cracks or beam breakage on the Chaparral™. "This day is long in the making", stated Mike Gordy, Co-Manager. "Countless hours of design and testing were spent to improve the reliability and performance of the old design", he continues.

In 2008, Doonan® Specialized Trailer, LLC acquired the assets of Chaparral Manufacturing, Inc. and began producing aluminum flatbed and drop deck trailers. Doonan® began experiencing a 3% failure rate related to aluminum main beam cracks at the suspension mounts. After review, it was determined that without routine maintenance of the suspension mounting bracing, in specific applications, cracks could occur in the main beams.

Utilizing Doonan's 40 years of experience in designing steel trailers, the Company undertook redesigning and testing of the main beam to suspension mount area of the

Chaparral™. *To date, the Company has not experienced a single beam warranty on a Chaparral™ product with the new design.*

The main beam to suspension mount redesign was just the beginning. Over the next two years, the Chaparral™ product was completely redesigned with 26 improvements leading to the introduction of the Chaparral II™. Prior to its release in 2014, the Chaparral II™ was sent to an independent test facility where it received extensive destructive testing for side drag durability to replicate real world conditions. The Chaparral II™ surpassed the improvements made to the original Chaparral™ product resulting in a lighter, stronger, and even more durable trailer.

"The test results were nice, but it's the 5-Years warranty free performance in the field that has me proud to call the Chaparral II™ a Doonan® product", say Kelly Zecha, National Dealer Sales Manager. If you would like to know more about the Chaparral history or latest product enhancements of the Chaparral II™, please contact Kelly Zecha (x265) or Kristy Rupe (x275).