

Application Engineering Elevates Upstart OEM to Market Leader Ligchine International's machine control delivers performance, efficiency, price

Ligchine International President Peter Ligman only works with GS Global Resources. Why? Their ability to simplify complex application engineering solutions for mobile and industrial machine markets.

"They are the only systems integrator to take on our challenge—and deliver—a concept everyone else told us was impossible," says Ligman, who invented Ligchine screed machines.

Ligman's line of concrete finishing screed machines delivers tighter tolerances than any other in the industry, runs more efficiently for his customers, and sells at a competitive price point.

"Ligchine's mechanical engineers created the design and performance parameters," GS Global Resources Darrell Kolp says. "They needed electrical, hydraulic and software engineering expertise to achieve their expected outcomes. They chose GS Global Resources because we created a hydraulic and electrical system to meet their machine performance goals."

In large part, Ligman attributes the success of his line of machines to the hydraulic and electronic systems integration expertise brought by GS Global Resources engineers. But, Ligman adds, the GS team also understands our entire value chain.

"Because of GS Global Resources innovative application insights, our auto-level, wireless screed is the most accurate machine in the concrete finishing world," Ligman says. "We give GS Global Resources our specifications and price points and they deliver."

GS Global Resources worked with the Ligchine team to go beyond accuracy to creating an efficient operating machine. Ligchine customers enjoy new, money-saving engineering insights without sacrificing performance.

"The support GS Global Resources delivers is superior to other vendors," Ligman says. "They're always making things more efficient and cost-effective for us, which keeps our machine cost-effective in the market place. They've created a robust system that prevented problems in the field, which helps Ligchine maintain a reputation level that is unmatched."

Market Share Growth Formula

Meeting its customers' needs with new technology at a competitive price point allowed Ligchine to secure significant market share since entering the market. The screed industry once was dominated by a single company for 27 years. Ligchine attributes its 100 percent year-over-year growth to creating the world's most accurate, cost-effective, wireless concrete screed machine.

As acceptance of application outsourcing gains momentum, OEMs seek engineering expertise in interpreting, adopting and adapting technology to meet design functionality. Ligchine and GS Global Resources have collaborated for the last eight years on a variety of machines. From the first Ligchine screed machine to its latest BOSS 240 model, the relationship has grown.

Ligchine International is the World's No. 1 manufacturer of Laser & 3D GPS guided boom extension screed machines. Boom operated screeds are superior to drive in the concrete machines in terms of



production, accuracy, concrete structural integrity and user safety. Technology is the key to Ligchine's powerful, durable and innovative screeds.

Like every Ligchine ScreedSaver model, the BOSS 240 includes standard features of wireless remote control, fully automatic operation, 2D laser control and 3D satellite control (optional). The BOSS 240 may be hauled with a pickup truck/trailer combination. According to Ligman, the BOSS 240 will produce market leading FL numbers that can only be achieved by using a boom operated screed.

The BOSS 240 is a Zero-Turn Drive System designed to increase maneuverability, with today's latest electronic control technology. Wireless remote control package and a touch-screen color display with diagnostic review integrated by GS Global Resources makes this possible.

GS Global Resources engineers selected J1939 on all electrical components. This allows the status of each component to be monitored as well as controlled. GS Global Resources also integrated a fuel-saving feature on the machine that kicks down the engine RPM from 2800rpms (work mode) to 1000rpms (standby mode) if radio functions are dormant for 20 seconds. Once a radio command is received, the system automatically increases the engine to 2800rpms (work mode).

The BOSS 240 features Parker's IQAN-MD4-7" control system. GS Global Resources engineered and programmed the system specifically to integrate the engine RPM and engine diagnostic information. GS Global Resources Parker IQAN-MD4-7" color touch-screen display with continuous hydraulic, electronic power and system status provides a level of accuracy that is superior to the competition. IQAN is a state-of-the-art communications system developed by Parker Hannifin to electronically control and monitor hydraulics in mobile machines.

- Diesel engines
- Transmission systems
- Cab control
- Truck systems
- Radio control

The Role of OEM Training

GS Global Resources offers a two-day training course covering Parker IQANdesign platform, SAE J1939 and CAN-Open communication protocols. The main philosophy behind the IQAN creative studio is that the OEM, with their extensive knowledge of their machines, should be able to program the desired machine functionality directly, without having programming experience.

In the case of Ligchine, old technology prevented existing concrete screeds from delivering the accuracy and durability customers were demanding. By partnering with GS Global Resources, Ligchine receives the latest technology and training to improve speed-to-market and solutions to improve the success and accuracy of Ligchine's customers.

Why Ligchine Only Uses GS Global Resources

In the end, Ligman has decided only to work with GS Global Resources for integrated application engineered solutions.



"From day one of our relationship, GS Global Resources always brings us something new to keep Ligchine ahead of the industry," Ligman says. "Electronic controls, Tier 4 insights and engineering support has been over the top."

Ligman won't say just how much market share Ligchine controls now. But he estimates Ligchine soon will account for a majority of screed industry sales.

"I have not shopped another systems integrator for 4 to 5 years," Ligman says. "Many have called on us but we have a relationship with GS Global Resources. We've worked through significant challenges to advance our products with these guys. The pricing is fair for the level of support we receive throughout the process, which allows us to deliver a superior machine to our customers."