

# Customizable Filter Cart by Des-Case

By Jon Haworth

**W**hether you are filtering new fluids before putting them into your machinery or transferring fluids from drums to reservoirs, filter carts are a great way to re-distribute fluids.

We asked Jon Haworth, director of operations, a few questions about their filter carts. Here are his thoughts...

**Q: Why don't we start with you giving us a brief explanation of the benefits from using a filter cart for lubrication handling.**

- A:** An easy, time-saving means to transfer oil;
- A portable off-line filtration system;
  - A cost-effective technique to extend lubricant life; and
  - A simple method to contribute to a best practices lubrication program.

**Q: Tell us what makes your Filter cart different from others out there.**

**A:** Our online cart customizer is helping to modernize the filter cart industry. Customers are finally able to fully customize their filter cart via any computer with access to the internet. We also offer the option to build-a-cart by a simple order form too. Our user-friendly format gives consumers a maximum return on their investment.

Our filter cart is designed by you, the consumer, which gives you the specific filtration requirements, providing you the most details possible and a solid return of your money.

**Q: When did Des-Case Corporation develop the idea for your customizable filter cart?**

**A:** In 1983, entrepreneur and founder Jim Waller created and sold filter carts to customers who needed efficient ways to transfer oil (see pictures). When the interest in breathers superseded filter carts, they ceased to be manufactured, and he concentrated solely on breathers. More recently, we have had the resources and the supply chain management to return to investing in filter carts again. Basically, we've returned to our roots.

**Q: Give us a rundown of the options that**

**are available and customizable with the FlowGuard™ cart.**

**A:** The use of the Filter Cart Customization tool is very simple and direct. The end user starts by going to the web site and selecting the Oil Handling section of the home page. This directs them straight

motor, or 8 gpm with 1.9 hp air operated motor. Each of the electrical options are available in 110 VAC or 220 VAC. Each of the pump flow rates and motor configurations specifically states the viscosity rating in SUS and ISO.

**Step two:** the user selects the drain connector for the suction side of the cart. The options include flush face, ISO A, ISO B, wand, or threaded end. In addition, there are three initial sizes being offered. The sizes are 1/2 inch, 3/4 inch, and 1 inch. The customer can configure any connection type with any size they wish.

**Step three:** select the fill connector for the pressure side. The same options apply here as for the suction side connectors. It is recommended through industry that the pressure side be sized smaller than the suction side. This ensures that the two never get connected incorrectly. Users will find the web site automatically defaults to one size smaller on the pressure side than on the suction side.

The initial offering allows the customer to select two filters to insure double filtration of the oil. This allows for multiple filtration configurations, which include water removal, as well as a variety of micron ratings.

**Steps 4 and 5:** select filters A and B. Typically filter A is used as either a water removal filter or as a pre-filter. Since the oil will flow through filter A before filter B, it is recommended that filter A be used to remove either water, or large particulate.

**Step 6:** the filter cart can be fitted with a filter bypass valve. This will allow for oil to be pumped from one reservoir to another without filtering it. While it is recommended to filter oil any time there is a risk of contaminants being present, it is not always necessary to filter all oil all the time.

**Step 7:** here the customer selects whether or not the unit is to be fitted with sample ports. By fitting the unit with a sample port, the user is able to sample oil directly from the filter cart. This can be beneficial in that the sample is able to be drawn from an agitated oil supply, which will offer a more representative sample.

**Step 8:** the customer selects electrical cord storage options. This can involve a



to the Filter Cart Customization section of the web site. From there, simply follow the steps of the page.

**Step one:** the customer selects the desired flow rate for the pump as well as the desired power source. The initial options include 2 gpm pump with 1 hp electric motor, 5 gpm pump with 1 hp electric motor, 10 gpm with 1 hp electric motor, 20 gpm with 1.5 hp electric motor, 2 gpm with 1.9 hp air operated

cord wrap, or a convenient 25-foot cord reel.

**Step 9:** choose whether the unit should be equipped with a relief valve. This is a safety relief valve designed to relieve pressure at 65psi. This option is very good for preventing excess pressure build-up in the filter cart. The relief valve is simply designed to provide piece of mind that the unit will function with no concerns of excess pressure build up.

**Step 10:** choose the color of your filter cart. This is a good time to assign a color for each cart and lubricant in use. Currently there are six colors to choose from, but additional colors can be selected through personal service.

**Q: What kind of impact can the FlowGuard™ filter cart have on overall plant and machinery reliability?**

**A:** Filter carts ensure higher levels of cleanliness when used in daily operations. They are the ideal way to pre-filter and transfer fluids into reservoirs. Fluids should always be filtered upon arrival and before

putting into service. Contamination, both particulate and water, may be added to new fluid during processing, mixing, or handling. This contamination can be prevented or removed with the use of one or more of our filter carts.

Filter carts are an integral part of the reliability chain. Most plant personnel are aware of the need for keeping lubricants clean, but they might not recognize that utilizing a filter cart saves an enormous amount of time in comparison with using the typical fluid transfer routines.

**Q: Tell us how a company can justify the cost to purchase the FlowGuard™ filter cart.**

**A:** When discussing a proposed filter cart purchase, management might feel that it's not necessary because the plant has not come across any lubrication-related problems yet. However, purchasing a high-quality FlowGuard™ filter cart is a proactive step companies should take toward meeting best practices guidelines, which can also be con-

sidered a safeguard against a multitude of problems, including equipment failures and plant shut downs. Once in the plant, the customized filter cart can bring added benefits; including cost and time savings, quality return on investment, and increased uptime.

**Q: What types of industries have shown the most interest in the customizable filter cart?**

**A:** So far we have seen a great interest from mining, power gen, and the military sectors.

**Q: How can our readers get more information about the filter cart?**

**A:** We offer electronic and print versions of our catalog, filter cart order form, and readers can access the Cart Customizer at [www.des-case.com](http://www.des-case.com). □

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**Jon Haworth** is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tenn., Haworth holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.



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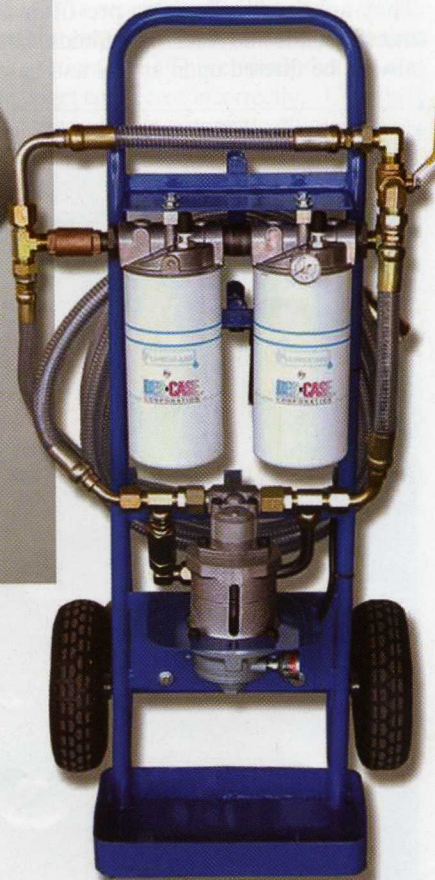
Keeping contamination under control.®

**DES-CASE**  
CORPORATION

**Today's Industrial Products & Solutions**

**A  
critical  
link  
in the  
reliability  
chain.**

Best lubrication practices require proactive maintenance. Des-Case filter carts maintain fluid cleanliness and are a critical link to optimal lubricant performance.



At Des-Case, we understand the importance of oil cleanliness and the role it plays in reliability optimization. That's why we've spent more than 20 years pioneering solutions specific to your industry applications that help maintain lubricant quality and maximize equipment reliability.

Our FlowGuard™ filter cart incorporates smart technology to make fluid handling a simple task, requiring less equipment and labor while reducing system contamination. Our filters provide large filtration surface area for maximum efficiency. By removing dirt and moisture, your equipment and lubricants can run longer and harder.