Novel Design with fabrication of Prototype of Centrifugal Casting Machine (CCM)

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Abstract

The aim of the project is to make a prototype of the CCM. This prototype represents working similar to that of centrifugal casting.

The complete function is based on the centrifugal force theory. In this research, appropriate design theory and measurement were adopted.

The mold which can rotate at moderate velocities is attached to the base plate, which produces required pressure against the mold's inner walls. Types of equipment used in this system are motor, pulleys, belts, shafts, bearings, steel pipes. By using these types of equipment, a prototype of a centrifugal casting machine is made.

Keywords: centrifugal casting machine (CCM), mold, transmission, motor, pulleys, belt and inverter

Introduction and literature review:

The metal part formed as a result of this operation is called a cast. Casting is as old as the Roman Empire. The roman craftsman started the art of casting by making two half mold, wedge them together and carefully pouring molten bronze into the mold cavity. This molten bronze solidifies on cooling and the cast removed from the mold. Within this method, they were able to make swords in large numbers. Casting hence has been a method by which important metal components are made in large quantities. [Allen, (1979)].

Worldwide, casting comes in the sixth position under the manufacturing industries. High precision castings are used in turbine vanes and blade in an aircraft jet engine. Economically, casting is desirable as the machine appears to be the most expensive method of producing an engineering component. Hence, without casting automobiles, household appliances and machine tools would have become costlier. Method for making cast metal parts can be classified into three groups. The molding processes that use a permanent pattern and expendable mold, molding processes that use expendable pattern and expendable mold and the molding processes that use the permanent mold. An expendable mold or pattern is the one that is used only once and discarded. The mold can be made of green-sand, core-sand, dry-sand, plaster of Paris or shell molding method using any of these, the same method is employed in the construction of the pattern and mold. [Brace et al, (1957)].

The bearing used in steam turbines should have good mechanical properties like strength, stress, wear, rigidity etc. A centrifugal casting is the only process by which such type of heavy axisymmetric job can be produced. Due to centrifugal force, the product homogeneity can be achieved in terms of mechanical properties than another casting process. For this, a special purpose horizontal axis centrifugal casting machine will be developed.

Objective:

- Prepare the prototype of the true CCM.
- Fabrication of Prototype of the CCM
- Analysis of the system.

Detailed Design:

1. **Transmission** (off the shelf) - The transmission includes a 3phases motor, two pulleys and a belt. An inverter is used to allow the regulation of the motor rotation speed. The movement transmission between the moving pulley and the machine shaft is carried out by a key 2.



Figure 1: Schematic figure of Centrifugal Casting Machine



Figure 2: Motor, pulleys, belt and inverter

3. **Shaft** - The shaft it is the most complex piece of the whole equipment, once it is composed of three parts: the superior and inferior sections and the thread union. The superior section serves as a guide. Whereas the inferior section makes stable where bearings are attached. The union between both sections is made by a thread cover, as shown in the same figure.



Figure 3: Shaft

4. **Bearings** (off the shelf) – Bearings were used to allow the relative movement between the rotative group and the machine support. Two bearings types are used; one of deep groove ball type and another of taper

roller type (supports radial and axial strengths). Bearings assembly is made by tightening between the shaft and the metallic cylinder.



Figure 4: Bearing

5. **Machine structure** - The structure has two fundamental functions: to serve as support to the machine, to promote operator safety and equipment protection. The support function is guaranteed by some supports in steel, as can be seen in the figure. On the other hand, the protection function is obtained with square section tubes and sheets that cover the whole machine. The structure still has a service hatchway that allows access to the mold.



Figure 5: Machine Setup Different views of setup made in CREO software:







Figure 6: All three views of Prototype Centrifugal Machine

Design Analysis and Calculation

Analysis of the velocity of Driven Pulley can be done by:

Where:

N1 and N2 = velocity of big and small diameter of the pulley (m/s) (Assume N₂ = 500 rpm) d1 and d2 = big and small pulley is 75.3 mm & 60 mm respectively Calculated Value of N₂ = 400 rpm

The belt speed can find out by:

Calculated Value of Bs = 60 m/min

Analysis Length of the belt

It can find out by

Where:

c = pulleys distance (100mm) Calculated Value of L = 941mm

Where:

Assuming ω = angular speed id 42rad/sec

N = speed of driven pulley 400rpm

Calculated Value of angular velocity = 42 rad/s

Analysis of the centrifugal force (F) can find out:

Where:

M = rotating disc's mass is 1.5 Kg r = disc's radius is 120mm $\omega = \text{rotating disc's angular speed is } 42 \text{ rad/s}$ The calculated value of centrifugal force = 3207.3N *Analysis of the generated torque T can find out:*

Where:

 r_D = rotating disc's radius is 3.5mm The calculated value of torque T = 21.00 Nm

Calculated values of power P = 854.7W

Analysis of shaft's diameter can be find out:

$$d^{3} = \frac{16}{\pi T} \sqrt{(K_{b}M_{b})^{2} + (K_{t}T_{t})^{2}} \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

Assuming $M_b = 0.3855$ $M_t = 0.057$ $K_t = 1.5$ $K_b = 2.0$ Where:

 M_t and M_b = torque moment of belt (Nm) and B.M. (Nm);

 K_b and K_t = Shock and fatigue factor towards M_t and M_b respectively.

The calculated value of the diameter of shaft = 38.2mm

Result and Discussion

Result

The electric motor was plugged into the main power supply empowering the rotational effects of the motor. Further, this transmission goes to the shaft assembly with the help of belt drives. This propelled the steel pipes to rotate about its own axis at a certain speed. As it is a prototype molten metal and mold are not used. The machine was able to cast aluminum alloy or any products. The whole system works similarly to that of a centrifugal casting machine but the casting process is not carried out.

Discussion

In this project, we have used steel pipes instead of casting pipes since it is a prototype of the CCM. For better explanation difference between prototype CCM with respect to original setup of CCM is given below.

Table 1: Difference between Prototype and Original centrifugal casting machine

Prototype	Original
It doesn't contain the mold in the casting pipes.	It contains mold to make pipes or cylindrical
	objects.
Molten metal is not poured into the casting pipe	Molten metal is poured for further process to
since it doesn't have any mold.	make hollow cylinders or pipes.
Motor speed can be of any rate since no casting	Motor speed plays a crucial role in the casting
process is carried out.	process.

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Types of equipment used are:	Types of equipment used are similar to that of
Motor, pulleys, bearings, shafts, steel pipes,	prototype materials. Instead of belt and pulleys,
belt.	gears and rollers can be used.
Gears and rollers can be used but the cost of	As the normal types of equipment' costs are
making the system increases.	high, so the cost of using gears and rollers
	doesn't matter.
The parts can be exchanged or replaced easily.	It takes time to exchange or replacing the parts.
Can be used in colleges or universities as a	Already used in industries, some are also
model of centrifugal casting for demo purpose	present in universities.
or for basic knowledge about centrifugal	
casting.	

Conclusion and Recommendation

Conclusion

This project paper showed led to the new prototype design and fabrication of CCM. It is basically used for a demonstration of the centrifugal casting machine. It is also used to know about the centrifugal casting machine. It assure in the reduction of fabrication cost of the CCM. Similar mechanisms and principles are used as of centrifugal casting machine.

Advantages

- The cost is less compared to the original centrifugal casting machine.
- The time required to make this whole system is less.
- Easily carried or transportable than the original centrifugal casting machine.
- It can be used for demonstration purposes in universities or colleges.
- Types of equipment used can be the daily used life products.

Disadvantages:

- Wastage of the material is high.
- It is a traditional technique.
- It can't be used for the casting process.
- Mold and molten metal are not used.

Future Scopes

After doing various mechanisms and mathematical calculations, it gives the confidence and all to develop this working project in the ultra-modern technologies. Makes the further generation to compete and make a better and good one.

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