

# Circle Feeder<sup>®</sup>

## A Mass Flow Feeder



[www.circlefeeder.com](http://www.circlefeeder.com)



Far left: LCI Corporation  
 Left: Yoshikawa's manufacturing facility  
 Above: Yoshikawa Corporation

## LCI Corporation & Yoshikawa Corporation

LCI Corporation, based in Charlotte NC, formed a partnership with Yoshikawa Corporation, of Kagoshima, Japan, in 1997. LCI is the exclusive supplier to the process industries in North and South America for Yoshikawa's unique, patented Circle Feeder®, the best solution for many difficult-to-flow solid materials.

## The Circle Feeder Principle

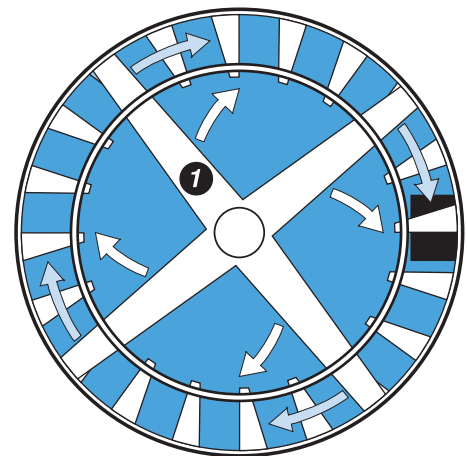
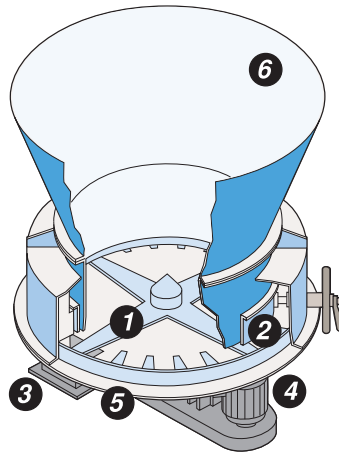
As a central vane ① slowly rotates, material is radially moved under a flow adjusting ring ② and conveyed to the discharge port ③. This allows the level of material in the hopper to drop evenly, creating mass flow conditions in the hopper.

### Circle Feeder Components

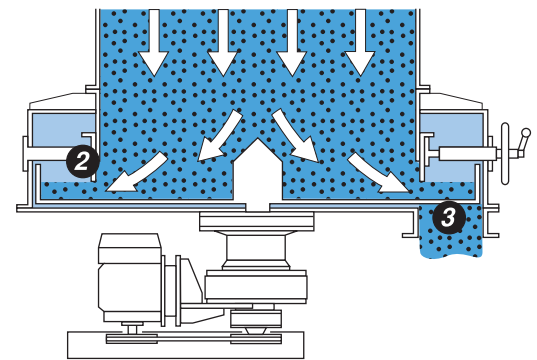
The Mass Flow Feeder consists of a stationary bottom plate ⑤, flow adjusting ring (weir) ②, rotary vane ①, drive shaft/speed reducer/motor ④, and a discharge port ③. The drive shaft runs up through the center of the bottom plate, and is attached to the rotary vane which consists of four evenly distributed blades.

The two parameters that control the Circle Feeder discharge rate are shaft rotation and the height of the flow adjusting ring (weir). The rotation of the central vanes is controlled by a variable speed motor and inverter.

- ① Rotary vane
- ② Flow adjusting ring
- ③ Discharge port
- ④ Motor
- ⑤ Stationary bottom plate
- ⑥ Hopper (typically supplied by client)



Top view



Cross-section view

## Features and Benefits

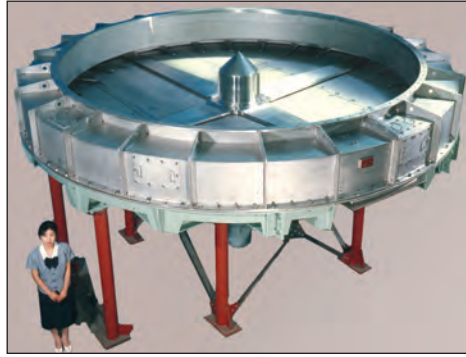
- Consistent discharge rate
- The large inlet exceeds most materials' critical arching diameter, preventing bridging. *No ratholing!*
- The slow rotating vanes move the material radially from the center to the outlet ensuring "first in — first out" mass flow
- Slow rotating parts insure gentle product handling and minimum downtime
- Turndown ratio up to 10:1
- Low maintenance
- Both discharging and metering functions



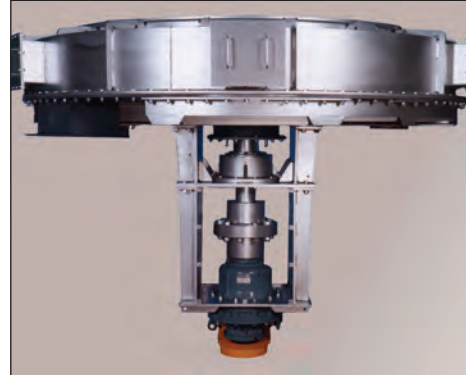
## Design Options

Circle Feeders can be custom designed with the following options:

- Multiple discharge ports
- High temperature capability
- Special coatings for abrasive materials
- Explosion proofing
- High moisture capability
- Sanitary or GMP
- Loss-in-weight control
- Drive configuration (vertical or horizontal)
- For high bulk density materials
- Washdown or airtight capability



*Standard designs are constructed of carbon steel or 304 stainless steel. Other materials are available on request.*



*High temperature designs.*



*Sanitary designs feature high internal polishing and hinged or lift-type upper case for cleaning access.*

## Applications

### Chemicals

Chemical intermediates  
Inorganic salts  
Polymer flakes and powders  
Soap powders and ingredients  
Pigments  
Resin flakes  
Fertilizer components  
Ink

### Food/Feed

Corn, rice, potato starches  
Corn, soybean, wheat flours  
Residual vegetable cuttings and pulp  
Minced meat  
Seed hulls and components  
Fermented products  
Seasonings

### Other

Carbon black  
Sewage sludge  
Metallic powders  
Recycled plastic/paper flakes and grind  
Cellulose derivatives  
Fibers  
Paper pulp  
Cement



*Loss-in-weight control is achieved by monitoring the weight of the material being discharged and automatically adjusting the rotation speed to achieve the desired rate.*



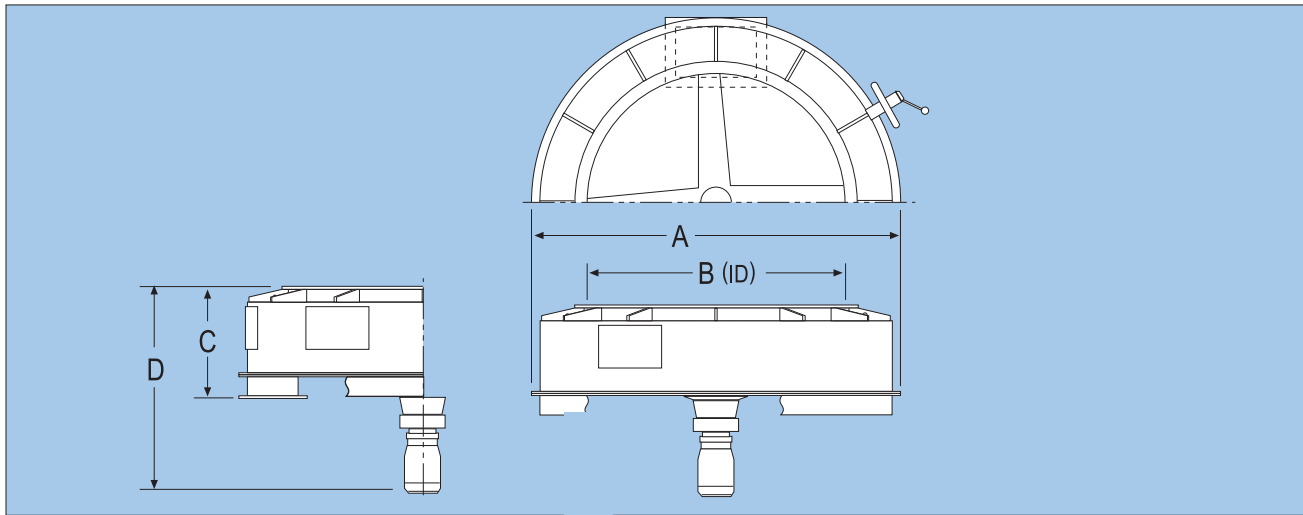
*Laboratory sized units (Mini-Ace) are designed for table-top use and incorporate all controls needed for operation.*



The image shows two large, green industrial machines, identified as Circle Feeders, in a factory environment. Each machine consists of a large, conical hopper at the top, a cylindrical middle section with a circular opening, and a base with a motor and drive mechanism. The machines are positioned side-by-side on a blue floor with yellow safety lines. A black text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**Fine  
powders,  
Granular,  
Wet,  
Fibrous,  
Cohesive,  
Flakes,  
Fluff,  
Pellets,  
etc. ...**

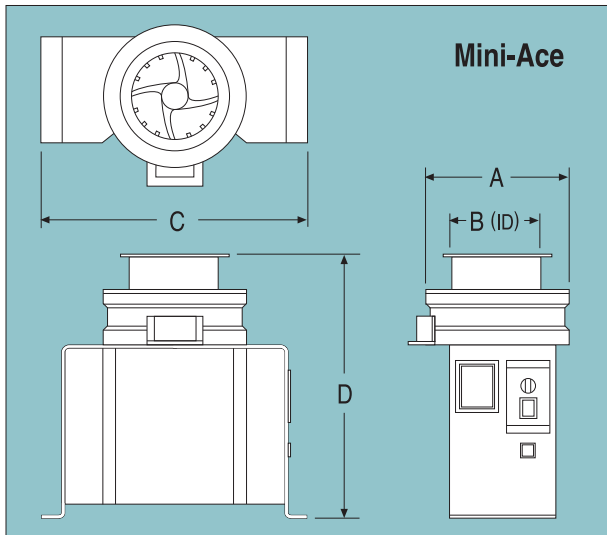
***If your product is difficult to meter,  
the Circle Feeder's unique operating  
principle provides reliable, accurate  
feeding where others fail.***



Model	CF-200		CF-300		CF-500		CF-700		CF-1000		CF-1200		CF-1400		CF-1600		CF-1800		CF-2000		CF-2400		
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	
Max. Capacity ft <sup>3</sup> /hr	5.3	28	16	39	39	102	208	530	424	848	565	1236	777	1483	848	1624	1130	2048	1271	2507	1695	3673	
Min. Capacity ft <sup>3</sup> /hr	2.1	16	9	21	22	46	81	240	138	314	170	388	226	565	251	636	290	706	353	777	459	1342	
Motor Capacity hp	.05	.05	.25	.25	.5	.5	.5	.5	2	2	3	3	5	5	5	5	7.5	7.5	10	10	10	10	
Max. Rotation Speed rpm	9.7	9.7	6.4	6.4	7.6	7.6	6.3	6.3	5.6	5.6	5	5	4.5	4.5	4.1	4	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.2	2.7	2.5	
Dimensions mm	A	330	410	492	552	766	826	1076	1176	1426	1526	1626	1776	1876	2026	2180	2330	2430	2580	2680	2830	3180	3380
	B	200	200	300	300	500	500	700	700	1000	1000	1200	1200	1400	1400	1600	1600	1800	1800	2000	2000	2400	2400
	C	200	200	265	265	320	350	390	470	450	520	510	570	610	655	615	660	660	725	680	785	745	860
	D	315	315	519	519	608	638	693	773	941	1011	1074	1134	1229	1274	1261	1306	1402	1467	1484	1589	1646	1761
Weight lb	35	42	132	154	276	320	540	705	903	1058	1532	1764	2072	2425	2866	3197	3549	3946	4277	4806	6127	6945	

1. B-type discharge openings are used for light, fluffy materials

2. The minimum and maximum capacities (turn-down ratio) indicated are based on the height of the flow adjusting ring inside the feeder. This turn-down ratio can be increased to 10:1 for most materials when using a combination of the flow adjusting ring height and a variable frequency drive.

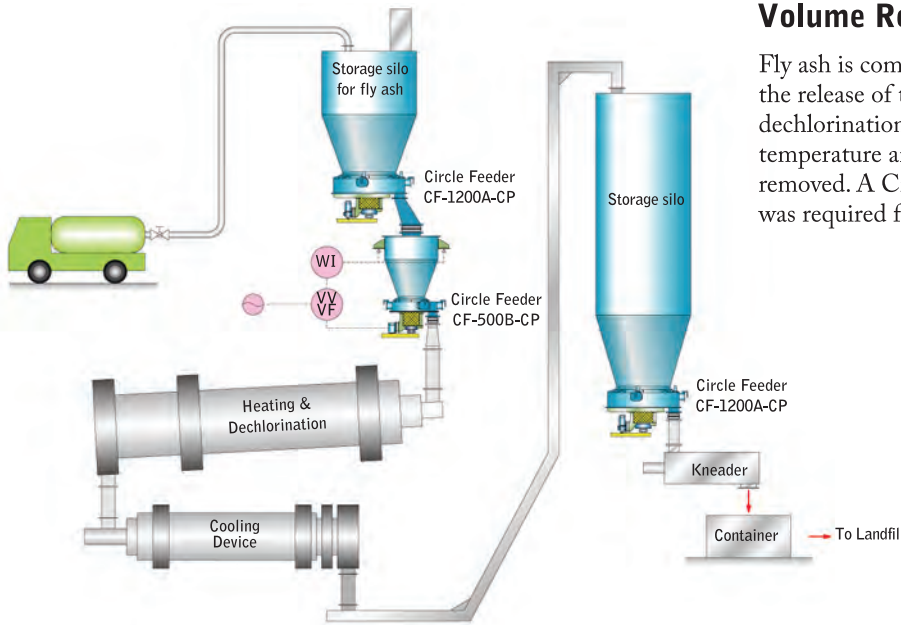


Model	MA-120	MA-180	MA-260	
Feeding Capacity ml/min	40-400	70-700	100-1000	
Rotation Speed	0.9-9 rpm			
Motor Capacity	40 w, Variable Speed			
Power	110v, 60 Hz			
Contact Materials	SUS 304			
Dimensions mm	A	196	264	350
	B	120	180	260
	C	360	420	470
	D	365	365	365
Weight	kg	16	20	30
	lb	35	44	66



## Volume Reduction Facility for Fly Ash

Fly ash is compressed to reduce its volume and prevent the release of toxic substances. The heating / dechlorination machine heats the fly ash to a high temperature and harmful substances such as dioxin are removed. A Circle Feeder with a loss-in-weight system was required for uniform feed.

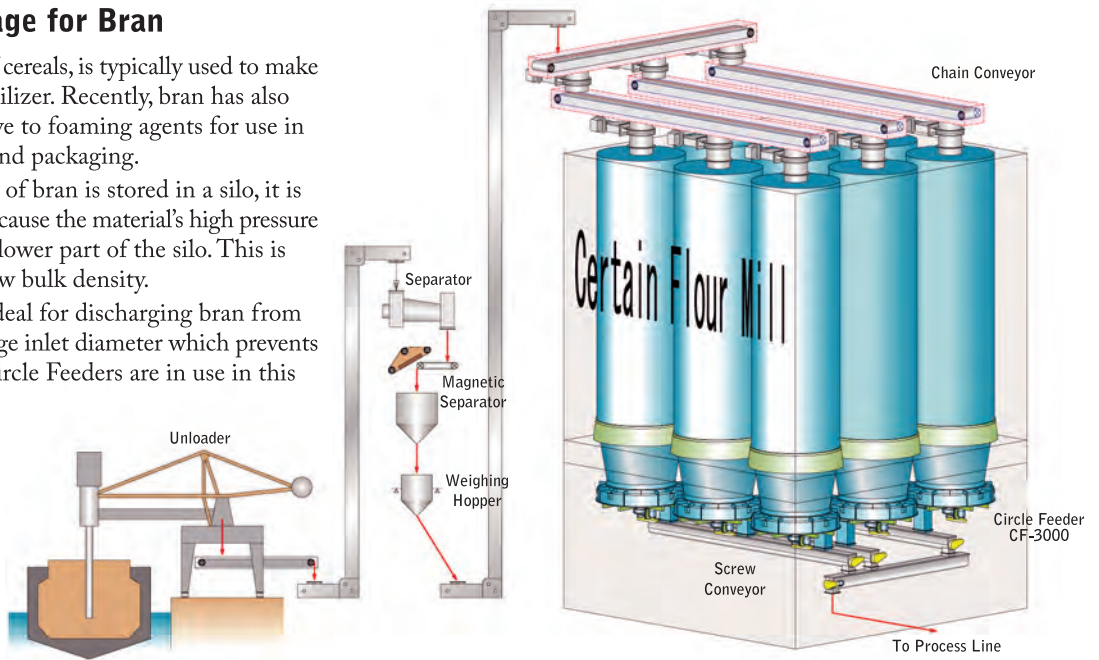


## Large Silo Storage for Bran

Bran, the outer husk of cereals, is typically used to make live stock feed and fertilizer. Recently, bran has also been used as an additive to foaming agents for use in health food products and packaging.

When a large quantity of bran is stored in a silo, it is difficult to discharge because the material's high pressure causes bridging at the lower part of the silo. This is aggravated by bran's low bulk density.

The Circle Feeder is ideal for discharging bran from large silos due to its large inlet diameter which prevents bridging. Over 180 Circle Feeders are in use in this application.



## Horizontal Shaft Drive

The coupling can be specially designed to have the lowest possible drive section height for this type, in order to meet the limited installation space.

The drive section height can be reduced further than that of the CV, CP, and CH types provided in the standard specifications.

