Itotec Cutters – Since 1919

Itotec, manufactured in Japan, has been producing Paper Cutters, and ancillary Cutting equipment for over 100-years. Headquartered in the city of Nagoya – home of Toyota – Itotec is a 6th generation family business with an install base of more than 12,000 Paper Cutters worldwide.

Itotec Paper Cutters are the original double-arm pull Guillotine Cutters in the world; all others are copies of the Itotec. The Ito family owns the company and are still very "hands on" with the daily operation of the Cutters and ancillary equipment. All Itotec Cutters that come into North America are manufactured in Nagoya, Japan. The components are sourced locally, and the electronics are Japanese. When comparing the Itotec Cutters to the main copy, Saber, many aspects stand out. In fact, Komori broke their partnership with Saber to represent Itotec.

History of the Two Brands

Itotec started manufacturing Paper Cutters in 1919 and the double arm pull Cutter in 1920. Mechanically, the Itotec Cutter has not changed its basic design since the mid-1980s. Saber was first sold in 1995 so it is a relative newcomer in comparison. Itotec has many innovations that were first in the industry. The list consists of:

- Double arm pull Cutter in 1920
- Computer controlled Cutter in 1972
- Touchscreen color monitor
- Knife adjustments all from the front of the Cutter
- Acceleration and deceleration of backgauge
- Ball bearing lead screw drive
- Programmable clamp dwell time after cut
- Programmable display for direction to turn lift

Saber is a copy of an older Itotec machine.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q ***What makes Itotec Cutters superior?***

A Many things, but primarily the drive shaft which is driven by a superior clutch, to dual gear boxes that drive the knife; the thickest knife bar in the industry; longer shear stroke for the cut; taller lifts mean less cuts, and less cuts means less knife changes. Itotec Cutters have very reliable electronics, Saber cannot say the same. We have had Itotec customers switch to Saber only to come back to Itotec simply because Itotec is a better Cutter.

Q ***What are the differences between Itotec and Saber with respect to mechanical construction?***

A The Itotec knife bar is 5/8" thicker than Saber – mass equals strength. The Itotec maintains a one-piece frame. Itotec has had the same magnetic clutch construction for years while we can count that Saber has been through 6 clutch designs in the past 20 years. The last re-design was to eliminate the magnetic clutch altogether in favor of a hydraulic clutch. The problem is that they did not enlarge the hydraulic system, so the same pump is now driving the clamp as well as the knife drive.

Q ***How is service and support handled with Itotec?***

A Best Graphics Group, being the importer of Itotec Paper Cutters has parts and service support based out of our facility in Southeast Wisconsin. We have service technicians available by phone for free. If the free phone call does not get the problem fixed, we guarantee a service technician on-site within 24 hours for warrantied equipment.

Q ***What is the warranty comparison?***

A Best Graphics puts a 5 year parts and labor warranty on Itotec Cutters when purchased new. Colter & Peterson warranties the Saber for 2 years unless the customer uses that as a negotiating tool. Saber has many more problems mechanically and electronically than Itotec and that warranty costs Saber more money.

Maintenance and Durability

Itotec is a leader in innovation, design and durability. Designed with strength and durability in mind, Itotec has never replaced a gear drive on a Cutter. We do know that Saber has replaced gear boxes, and we are 100% certain that they experience knife drive issues as they are on clutch design number 7 since 1995. All system components, mechanical and electrical, are manufactured in Japan to rigorous control standards. Saber cannot say the same.

Review

- ✓ **Originator of Double Arm Pull technology as well as many innovations still in use today**
- ✓ **Manufactured since 1919, not 1995**
- ✓ **All Japanese Electronics**
- ✓ **Thickest knife bar in the industry**
- ✓ **Best Support in the industry**
- ✓ **Unmatched 5 year parts and labor warranty as standard**

Itotec Guillotine Paper Cutters are the strongest in the world and are often imitated but never duplicated. With 75 years of Cutter manufacturing experience before the first Saber Cutter was constructed, Itotec surely has the advantage over the competition.

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