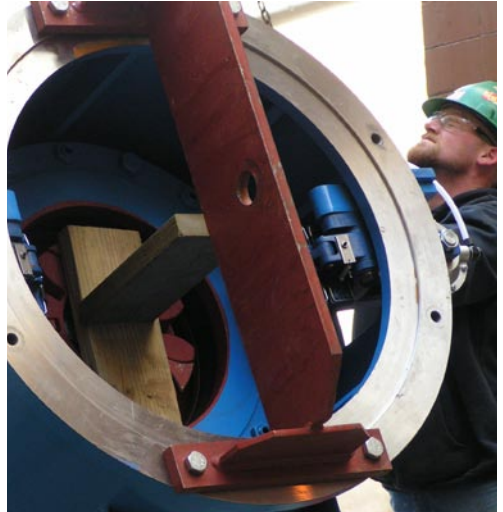


# Extension of Tate & Lyle's centrifugal station for fructose in Lafayette, USA



*Centrifugal being lifted*

*into the building*

In July 2006, Tate & Lyle commissioned BMA to supply G1500 batch centrifugals for the first extension phase of their crystalline fructose production plant. The order for the second phase, with more G1500 machines, was placed in December 2006.

Tate & Lyle has successfully operated its present centrifugal station with identical G1500 machines for many years. The operating parameters for centrifuging crystalline-fructose massecuite differ considerably from those for sucrose-based massecuite. Centrifuging times are much longer, which is why the centrifugal cannot handle the same number of cycles per hour. The gravity factor is up to 50 % higher than that of white sugar. This – as well as the finer crystals – is why the massecuite layer is thinner than in standard centrifugals. Under these technological conditions, the centrifugal also has to be fitted with a modified basket that is made from high-strength duplex steel and provided with thicker walls. Since BMA has optimized the basket design and the material used for its construction, these baskets do not require the reinforcing hoops that were still needed in earlier models. This gives the centrifugal basket a very low-stress design altogether.

The 'G' machines are equipped with the new G19 discharger system known from the 'B' series. With this solution, the basket is reliably centred by three track rollers during the discharging process for low-abrasion operation. The discharger plough is guided in a ball-and-rail guide system, assuring zero backlash. In recent years, the new discharger system has also been retrofitted with great success on the earlier installed G1500.

This order is yet another example of the excellent business relations BMA and Tate & Lyle have maintained for many years, and is also proof of the outstanding performance and reliability of our machines. Another important benefit are the local spare parts and maintenance services BMA America provides from Greeley, Colorado.

*Hans Schmidt*