Opto-Shear Console

EASY, SMART, AUTOMATIC. DRIVE YOUR SHEARLINE.

The aSa Opto-Shear Console not only automates all shearline processes with minimal operator input, it manages and paces the entire shop operation, resulting in fewer errors, less scrap, and more overall efficiency from your crew.

- **Improves Production Rates**
  Easy-to-follow instructions pace the entire shearing operation, regardless of crew experience.

- **Reduces Cutting Errors**
  Information loaded from computer-generated instructions or scanned from barcoded tags eliminates the potential for bad data entry by the operator.

- **Easy to Use**
  Clear and accurate message prompts and simple, integrated design get you up and running quickly.

- **Loads Tag Info Quickly With Barcode Interface**
  Connected hand scanner loads tag information into the console's memory by reading linear or 2D barcodes printed on production bundle tags.

The console drives the entire shearing operation electronically by completely automating shearline processes — gauging, bin selection, and roller motion — and managing the shop crew with easy-to-follow instructions — shake-out requirements, tagging, pocket blocking, and crane call messages — timed for maximum productivity. aSa's controller interfaces with nearly any shearline as an original or replacement console.

Integration and Intelligence

aSa's Opto-Shear Console is the ultimate interface between your shearline, your shop crew, and aSa Production software. Its innovative design makes it flexible, efficient, and extremely easy to use:

- Built-in PCs inside every Opto-Shear Console connect to your network for automatic download of aSa Production-generated fabricating information. You can also load information into the console's memory by scanning barcoded bundle tags, via portable media, or by entering data on the controller's touch-screen monitor.

- Multiple cutting screens help you with any type of work, from pre-optimized Production runs to quick walk-in orders, and everything in between. For most cutting, your crew simply follows the prompts on the console screen and the connected lighted message boards.

- The console's interface is designed to save you time. You can switch between cutting screens with a single touch. You can also create your own "My Tasks" menu with shortcuts to the operations you perform the most.

- Built-in processes and validations keep your shop crew safe. For example, the system prevents you from assigning a bundle to a pocket area where it won't fit. Additionally, you can *only* engage the shear blade if it is time to cut within the shearing cycle.

- **Keeps Your Shop Crew Working Safely**
  Automatic "Stop" button that cuts all power to the shearline, dual Shear buttons that must be pressed simultaneously to activate the blade, and optional pressure-sensitive safety mat are key safety features of aSa's console.

- **More Than Just Shearing**
  Each set of instructions used by the console is a complete management plan for stock requirements, cutting, packaging, and handling material.

- **Maximizes Shearline Potential**
  Older, manual shearlines reach new levels of productivity when automated with the aSa console.

The aSa Opto-Shear Console operates in three main cutting screens. You can easily switch among the three screens at any time.

Automatic Screen — an extension of your Shearing software

In the Automatic screen, shearing instructions are generated by the aSa Shearing module and executed by the Opto-Shear console with minimal operator intervention, giving new meaning the phrase "automatic shearline." With no need for the operator to enter shearing instructions, the job is simplified to monitoring production and activating the shear. Automatic cutting features:

- Automatic gauging, runout, and discharge.
- Prompts the shearman and crew at every step of the process, from shaking out stock to removing completed bundles.
- The best operator interface in the industry.

The aSa Opto-Shear Console features a glove-friendly touch-screen interface. The console is built to rigid specifications to provide your shop with years of reliable service.

Flex Screen - puts *you* in control of organizing tag data and cutting steel

Enter data by scanning tags, selecting a Production file, or manually entering material details. Stop and bin can be selected by simply touching the desired location on a picture of the shearline.

Once tag data is entered, you can organize it any way that serves your needs. For example, filter by bar size, then sort by length, quantity, or bin. You can also move tag data between different worksheets to make it easier to manage.

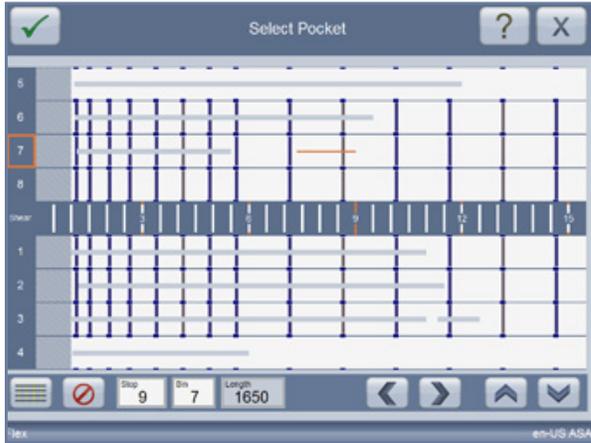The Flex screen lets you fabricate in three different cutting modes:

- Item Cut - For a "one tag at a time" approach, simply touch a row on the Flex screen grid. Fabrication instructions automatically pop up, allowing you to cut and deposit the item.
- Multi Cut - Enter your stock length, then touch a sequence of tags to fabricate. The system filters out items that can't be selected based on remaining lengths and quantities. When fabrication begins, processing and automation are exactly the same as the Automatic screen.
- Optimize - In this mode, you select the tags you want to fabricate, enter one or multiple stock lengths, then touch Go. The system immediately calculates cutting combinations and begins automatic fabrication.

One Cut - great for walk-ins and special work

If you're in the middle of an optimized run or selecting items in Flex, and you need to quickly fabricate an item or two, use One Cut. The One Cut window displays on top of the current screen and goes away when you touch Close, leaving you right where you left off.

In the Flex screen, the operator can choose the stop and bin by simply positioning a scaled-to-length bar in the desired pocket area of an on-screen picture of the shearline.

aSa's console does more than control the shearline. It provides a thorough production plan for the entire shop crew. For example, a message board connected to the console tells the shake-out person what stock is required next.

Technically Innovative Design

The aSa Opto-Shear Console is constructed of heavyweight industrial grade steel that is gasketed and sealed to withstand adverse shop conditions and weather elements. The Opto-Shear Console is built to rigid aSa specifications, making it both durable and reliable. The Console has no custom parts, and all electronic components are readily available and can be installed with a screwdriver, minimizing downtime.

The Console's advanced technology touch-screen display monitor allows the operator to provide input and control features and options by the touch of a finger. Controlled by its own networked internal PC, modifications to functionality involve mere software changes rather than changes to complex wiring or integrated circuit boards. This enables easy customization and fine-tuning of the aSa Opto-Shear Console for each shearline and shop environment. Other key components:

- Large removable work shelf accommodates operator paperwork.

- Touch-screen input simplifies manual length, bin, and discharge selections.

- On-screen buttons are large enough to allow the operator to provide input while wearing gloves.

- Emergency stop button cuts all power to the shearline.

- Solid state modules (OPTOs) optically isolate internal components from electric hazards induced by other shop equipment, welding, etc.

- Lighted message boards, connected to the console, provide valuable, easy-to-read instructions to the entire shop crew — including stock shakeout requirements and crane calls.

- The console's scanner interface reads linear and 2D barcodes.

Popular optional accessories include:

- Radio remote control

- Safety light curtain

- Pressure-sensitive safety mat

- Secondary plug-in manual control panel for emergency backup

- **Touch-screen Technology**
  The controller features a large monitor and user-friendly interface. Data and options are entered using the console's glove-friendly touch screen.

- **The Options You Need**
  The console can be easily customized for your shop crew's needs. Create a My Tasks menu of common activities. You can even design your own color scheme!

- **Smart, Simple Controls**
  With aSa, button, joystick, and switch controls are easy to use and built to last.

- **Easily Handles Walk-in Work**
  Computer shearing can be interrupted at any time to accommodate unexpected orders. The console remembers the last item cut; when the walk-in items are finished, the operator simply returns to computer shearing exactly where he left off.
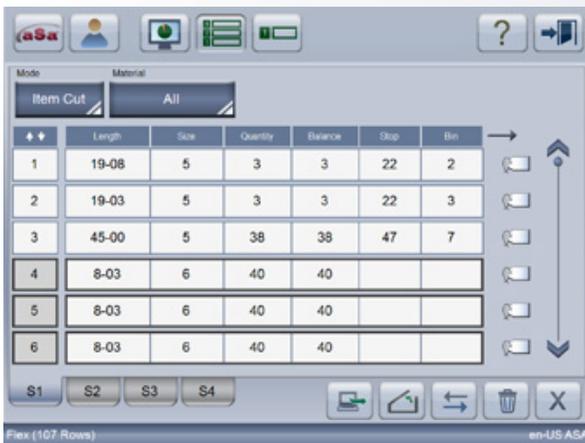
- **Upgradeable Enhancements**
  All of the console's interface features are software-driven. This allows you to add new features as they are developed without the need for mechanical changes.

Handle any type of work with the aSa Opto-Shear Console's three cutting screens

◄ *Automatic (top left)* - Automates cutting instructions generated by aSa Shearing optimization software. To cut steel and manage bundles, simply follow the on-screen prompts.

◄ *Flex (bottom left)* - Organize tag data any way you like, then fabricate in one of three different cutting modes: Single Cut for one-item-at-a-time cutting; Multi Cut - you select the tag sequence; or Optimize - the console automatically optimizes the selected tags and begins automatic cutting.

▲ *One Cut* - Quickly and safely cut an item, then return to Automatic or Flex right where you left off. One Cut saves your history, making it easy to repeat any cutting sequence.

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Since 1969, Applied Systems Associates, Inc., has been an innovator in rebar software technology. aSa's "Complete Rebar Solution" automates nearly every step of the reinforcing steel process. Methods, procedures, and presentation practices developed by aSa have become standards in the rebar industry. More than just a software developer, aSa prides itself on providing complete solutions, including hardware, networking, and information technology services, as well as top-notch training and support from aSa's large in-house team of computer and industry experts. aSa is a Microsoft Certified Partner and supplies business solutions from Sage Software, Inc., and engineering solutions from Bentley Systems, Inc. — including the CAD design package MicroStation. aSa also provides a comprehensive line of paper forms and office supplies.

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