

Use and Maintenance Instructions

The Big Shot fiber transport system was designed to quickly and safely move synthetic fiber reinforcement from ground-level storage to upper-level batching systems and trucks. The Big Shot provides a simple and inexpensive way to add pre-weighed bags or loose fiber to almost any mixing system. With zero moving parts and very minimal maintenance, this system has been installed and used in scores of applications, and represents the most efficient fiber-addition method known to minimize addition time and maximize safety.

The basic operational premise of the Big Shot is similar to that of a drive-through teller window at a bank, where the initial vacuum combines with air pressure to send the canister to its destination. The same basic principal is applied to the Big Shot - the pre-weighed fiber bags or loose fiber are first sucked into and then pushed through the system's delivery piping and arrives at the point of discharge at the batching system. This process requires no mechanical moving parts, and provides a safe and nearly maintenance-free way to add fibers to almost any system.

An optional counter system is available to count premeasured bags of fiber (requires a 120 Vac power supply). The counter system includes a remote printer and data recorder.

These instructions outline the necessary steps to operate the Big Shot fiber transport system. If technical assistance is necessary, limited assistance is available from your local FORTA[®] field representative, or by telephone consultation with FORTA Corporation Operations Department. For more in-depth assistance, on-site technical services are available through FORTA Corporation at a cost of the technician's travel, lodging, and time on site. Contact FORTA Corporation for details.



Important

Failure to follow the within instructions, and any other supplied instructions, may void any applicable warranty.

Big Shot operation

Once the Big Shot system has been installed, it is ready for operation. Though the air compressor must be on at all times, the shut-off valve only needs to be open (turned on) when adding fiber at the entry point. As a result, the system requires very little actual compressor time to discharge fibers into the mixing system.

1. Ensure that the air compressor is on.
2. **For a system with the optional counter:** Ensure that power to the counter, control unit and printer is turned on.
3. When ready to add fiber to the mixing system, open the air supply shut-off valve.



Important

Do NOT preload the intake pipe with multiple fiber bags before opening the air supply shut-off valve. The system is designed to transport one bag at a time into the mixing system, and depends on the vacuum created to accomplish this function.

4. Hold the loose fibers or a bag of fiber up to the intake pipe. The immediate vacuum created will suck the fibers/bag

into the system, and transport it quickly to the discharge point. Even if the discharge point is not visible from the entry point, the operator will detect an audible change in the vacuum sound, alerting them that the fiber has been discharged.



Important

Sufficient free space at the intake opening must be available to allow the vacuum process to function properly. Do NOT over-stuff fiber bags into intake pipe.

5. **For a system with the optional counter:** As each bag passes through the counter, a signal is sent wirelessly to the control unit and the printer.
 - ✦ The control unit records a time stamp for each bag and keeps a running total of the number of bags fed. This information is stored on a micro SD card which can be accessed after the run on a computer.
 - ✦ The printer will print out a time stamp for each bag fed in real time.
6. Continue to add fiber until the total amount needed has been dispensed.
7. When complete, close the air supply shut-off valve.

Typical delivery time for a 50 foot system is 2 to 3 seconds. Though the Big Shot is a single bag system, the product flow is extremely fast. Typically, the first bag has been delivered into the mixer by the time the operator can pick up and load the next bag. Usual total time required to load a 10 yd³ batch would be 10-15 seconds.

Standard 1.0 and 1.5 lb bags offer no problem to the Big Shot fiber transport system. The Big Shot is also very capable of handling larger weight macro/structural fiber bags; however, trials should be performed prior to project start up. Larger bags can be folded lengthwise to ease addition at the entry point.



CAUTION!

The Big Shot system was designed to transport lightweight synthetic fibers, and should not be expected to accommodate other heavier materials such as coarse aggregates, ice, or steel fibers. Caution should also naturally be exercised to keep small children and pets away from the fiber intake section during operation. Installation of a closable guard or trap door may be advised if the unit is to be used in an open or unsupervised area.

Optional counter - Micro SD card format and computer access

For systems with the optional counter, the counter's micro SD card automatically creates a new file every day at midnight. File names are created as mm/dd/yy (i.e. 01/01/18). Information for each bag is stored on the micro SD card in the following format:

- ✦ Bag #
- ✦ Date (mm/dd/yy)
- ✦ Time (hh/mm/ss)

To access the SD card on a computer insert the SD card into a card reader. Browse the SD card and look for a file EXCEL>EXCEL 1> Date. The date will be the day of the production run.

Maintenance

The following maintenance should be done on a regular basis:

- Check tightness of mounting hardware to ensure that the Big Shot and all pipe sections are well supported and secure.

Contact FORTA Corporation

If it is necessary to contact FORTA Corporation, you can do so by the following:

Mail: FORTA Corporation
100 Forta Drive
Grove City, PA 16127-5221

Phone: 1-800-245-0306 or 1-724-458-5221

Fax: 1-724-458-833

Web: www.fortacorp.com

Warranty

The Big Shot® fiber transport system is a unique patented unit that is essentially free of moving parts, and should require no conventional maintenance. The unit operates on an air induction system and therefore depends on PVC pipe sections and connections that are free from cracks and/or leaks. The Big Shot® active unit must be protected from surrounding equipment damage and severe impact, and is not warranted against unusual circumstances.

Assuming the above conditions, the active Big Shot® unit is hereby warranted to be constructed of first class materials and workmanship, and free of defects that would not permit it to operate in an effective manner. If the unit is proven to be defective in these conditions for a period of three years from the date of lease and/or purchase, FORTA Corporation will at its sole option, repair and/or replace the Big Shot® system at no charge, not including delivery and/or installation costs or charges. The warranty covers only the Big Shot® active unit, and does not cover any additional pieces, parts or sections that may have been utilized in the installation process.

FORTA Corporation's sole and exclusive warranty is that the Big Shot® system will comply with the descriptions and specifications listed in this Warranty Section and will be free from defects in workmanship or material for a period of three years from the date of lease or purchase. FORTA Corporation's sole responsibility under this exclusive warranty is, at FORTA Corporation's sole discretion, to repair or replace the Big Shot® system.

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY STATED IN THIS EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY, FORTA CORPORATION DISCLAIMS ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WITH RESPECT TO THE BIG SHOT® SYSTEM OR ANY UNDERTAKINGS, ACTS OR OMISSIONS RELATING THERETO.

The lessee's sole and exclusive remedy in connection with an accepted offer for the Big Shot® system shall be the repair or replacement of the Big Shot® system.

FORTA CORPORATION SHALL IN NO EVENT BE LIABLE FOR ANY CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONTINGENT DAMAGES OF ANY TYPE, WHETHER ARISING OUT OF BREACH OF CONTRACT, BREACH OF WARRANTY, TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE AND STRICT LIABILITY) OR OTHER THEORIES OF LAW WITH RESPECT TO THE BIG SHOT® SYSTEM LEASED OR SOLD BY FORTA CORPORATION, OR ANY UNDERTAKINGS, ACTS OR OMISSIONS RELATING THERETO.