

Versatile, Cost-Effective Diamond Shelters Ideal for Mining Industry

Diamond Shelters began building customer-driven structures to meet specific needs right from the start. In fact, many of the “standard” designs offered today come from special requests over the years.

“Some of the sizes and designs that we have come from making custom orders – it’s stuck, and it’s worked, and it’s become popular,” said Jerry Neufeld, sales manager at Diamond Shelters. “Custom orders don’t scare us. It’s something that we do on a daily basis.”

In fact, customization is one of three main reasons Diamond Shelters are so attractive to the mining industry. Too often, portable or modular structures come in a series of set designs that companies have to make work around their needs. Diamond Shelters flips that, so that they make it work for the customer.

“Customization is one of our specialties – we do a lot of that,” said Glenn Malkoske, production manager at Diamond Shelters. “Every application might have side door openings or may have something poking through the wall or roof. Some have equipment hanging from the rafters, so you have to compensate for those extra loads.”

Those aren’t always minor design changes. Diamond Shelters has the ability and know-how to re-engineer existing shelters or completely design new ones to meet customer specs. All structures meet CSA-A660 quality certification for steel building systems. Most importantly, they are one of the highest quality structures, another factor that makes them so attractive to mines.

“If it isn’t quality, we don’t put it out. We make no bones about it – ours are the best shelters out there,” Malkoske said. Longevity and strength are both important. “You don’t want them to collapse.”

Key to that is the quality of steel and cover materials. The steel and fabric are made in North America, which is of better, more consistent quality than steel and fabric sourced from other places in the world. The steel frames are manufactured by Canadian Welding



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Bureau certified welders.

“Quality and service are what we strive for,” Neufeld said. The steel, if properly maintained, will last forever. The fabric is rated for about 12 years of use, he said, though some of their own warehouses are older than that. Diamond Shelters provides patch kits and even patch services for the cover if needed. Rather than replace the whole structure when the cover reaches end of life, a completely new cover can be ordered.

Portability is the third main factor. Once built, Diamond Shelters can be broken down and shipped on a standard flatbed truck. Depending on the size, they can be reassembled onsite in a matter of hours or days. Diamond Shelters supplies a crew, though companies can choose to do the installation themselves.

The shelters come in two major styles: single-hoop for smaller structures, and welded truss shelters for larger models. Diamond Shelters keeps some of the smaller models in stock, and can ship out almost immediately. Larger and custom-designed models usually take from four to six weeks from order to onsite delivery.

Diamond Shelters is a brand name of Dueck’s Mechanical, Inc. located in Whitemouth, Manitoba, about an hour east of Winnipeg. LaVern Dueck started the family-owned business in 1989, specializing in metal fabrication and equipment repair. According to Malkoske, the company first started to build custom-made hog barns. Diamond Shelters grew from there. Farming continues to be a big part

of the business, but commercial and industrial customers are now the largest segment of its business.

Specialty projects include a drone hanger for the Royal Canadian Air Force, a circular shelter for a wood chip pile, and a boathouse for a small ship for the Royal Canadian Navy, a composting facility, and movable shelters mounted on rails. It also manufactures a portable golf shelter for driving ranges that protect golfers from the sun and rain, which Diamond Shelters has shipped to the U.S., Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Australia.

Malkoske said mining customers choose Diamond Shelters for their durability, customizable designs and portability. The company has sold Diamond Shelters to mining companies in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Nunavut, and Ohio. They are being used for housing drilling equipment when in use, machinery storage, insulated maintenance shops, and even an insulated kitchen facility.

“The real beauty of Diamond Shelters is the clearance. These roof systems aren’t supported by interior poles – they are all clear span,” said Malkoske. “They work very well; they are cost effective; and, they can be adapted to virtually any situation.”

www.diamondshelters.net ■

