

NLB UHP Water Jet Cutting

A world leader in fiber-cement technology recently contacted NLB for a unique water jet cutting application. The product to be cut was a man-made mixture of grout and wood fiber that is used as exterior lap siding for buildings. Because NLB already had a past relationship with the manufacturer, when it came time to build a new sister facility, the producer once again came to NLB. They knew they could depend on NLB's ultra-high pressure pumps to run consistently and reliably around the clock.

To begin the manufacturing process, grout and wood material are mixed with other proprietary chemicals in a large vessel to a precise consistency. It is then processed into sheets on a conveyor belt where a wood grain pattern is impacted onto the product so that it has a clean, finished appearance. As the 10' x 9' semi-moist sheets roll down the conveyor, they pass under as many as 18 diamond orifice nozzles which trim the material to various widths using UHP water.

An NLB Model 40100E (40,000 psi, 4.3 gpm) provides the water for the cutting process. The company found that using UHP water as a cutting tool not only sliced the fiber-cement boards faster and more efficiently, but it also produced a higher quality final product.

NLB manufactures a variety of ultra-high pressure pumps and nozzles. To find out which pump is right for your water jet cutting application, please contact your local NLB office or visit our website.



An uncut sheet of siding material prior to passing under the waterjets.



A single large sheet has been cut into eight individual pieces of siding.

The Leader in High-Pressure Water Jet Technology