



YEE-HAW
BREWING CO.

Yee-Haw Brewing Company Chooses Miura Boilers For Compact Size And On-Demand Steam

Tennessee-Based Brewery Grows Distribution and Wins Awards While Relying on Miura Boilers for Reliable and Efficient Steam Output and Reduced Fuel Consumption.

Johnson City, Tennessee, 2017 – Yee-Haw Brewing Company has been heading in the right direction since opening in a renovated train depot in Johnson City, Tennessee in the first half of 2015 and choosing a Miura LX-200 Boiler as its “steam engine.” Since then, the company has expanded distribution to Nashville and picked up the Bronze Award for their European-Style Dark/ Muenchner Dunkel beer at the 2016 World Beer Cup, a global beer competition that evaluates beers from around the world and recognizes the most outstanding brewers and beers.



“You can credit our success from doing things right from the very beginning,” notes Cris Ellenbecker, the company’s Brewmaster. “Yee-Haw takes a lot of pride in what it makes and where it’s located, and that extends to making smart decisions throughout the facility, including which steam boiler to use.”

After doing their homework, there were a number of reasons why Yee-Haw chose Miura.

“While planning for the brewery, it was quickly evident that space would be at a premium,” notes Ellenbecker. “The Miura LX-200 that was chosen would require less space than a traditional boiler (it can fit through an average doorway), and provide additional capacity beyond the initial steam load. The brewery would be able to grow without adding additional boilers.”

The ease of use was also an important consideration. “Without trained boiler operators, the Miura boiler is easy to operate, a task that can be accomplished by many of our people,” adds Ellenbecker. “Plus, the ability to turn the boiler on in the morning and have steam in less than 5 minutes negates the need to have personnel come in hours earlier.

“The boiler’s ability to produce full steam in a matter of minutes was a huge advantage, because I can just come in the morning, fire the boiler up, and start mashing in and heating up my mash right away,” said Ellenbecker. “There’s no wait time. I can just start work. We can start cleaning our tanks and brewing right away. That’s an amazing benefit.”

It wasn’t always that way for Cris, who came to Yee-Haw from another brewery that didn’t have Miura. It gave him a unique perspective, allowing him to appreciate Miura’s features and benefits even more.

“We worked with another boiler when I was in Milwaukee, Wisconsin,” explained Ellenbecker. “It took forever to get started in the morning. We’d have our first shift guys come in at 6:00 AM and we were maybe starting our day by eight or nine o’clock. There were huge wait times and the shutdown procedures were insanely lengthy. You had to make sure you didn’t miss any detail. Otherwise, something could go wrong when you started it up again.

“With Miura, shutdown is basically two valves and a button,” added Ellenbecker. “It’s that simple and you’re done. Anybody can shut it down. Anybody can start it up and if we did have any minor issues, the customer support is phenomenal!”

Yee-Haw Brewing ...

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Miura's outstanding reliability and efficiency didn't go unnoticed, and Cris wasn't surprised to hear that Miura boiler customers who switched from a competitor's boiler to Miura were saving around 20% in fuel costs.

"Because it starts up so quickly and shuts down so easily, there's no question about the efficiency and the savings on fuel and water," adds Ellenbecker. In terms of reliability and maintenance, we've seen no problems on over two-plus years.

"Reliability has been a big key and has eliminated downtime and costly repairs," notes Ellenbecker. "The old boiler at my previous employer resulted in absurd repair bills. That's an expense no one wants. With Miura, as long as you do your regular maintenance, which is easy, you'll be way ahead of the game."

Doing things better has allowed Yee-Haw to grow rapidly.

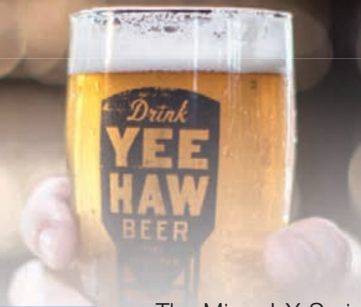
"In the short time we've been around, we're already surpassing about 12,000 production barrels a year, which is insane for a craft beer," notes Ellenbecker. "It's a really exciting time to be on board and to be in charge of all these great guys helping to keep this place running so well."

Having a Miura boiler has not only helped to "fuel the growth, but to make a statement about the company to potential new employees.

"We just promoted someone to brewery supervisor, who came to us from a brewery in Asheville, North Carolina," explains Ellenbecker. "That company also had a Miura boiler, and just bought a second one about the time he was leaving. At his old company, he was the one doing all the maintenance at that facility, so when he came here for his job interview and saw that we also had Miura, he was like, 'Yeah, this is a place I can work.'

"It was very reassuring for him because he had worked on Miura boilers and he knew how easy they were to operate," added Ellenbecker. "But also, the fact that we had one, said a lot about our brewery to him."

LX-200 SG LX Gas/Low NOx Series, Low and High Pressure Steam Boiler use natural gas or propane and are available in a range of steam options (300 MAWP, 170 MAWP or 15 MAWP). Their compact size allows them to fit through a standard doorway, while their naturally low NOx (nitrogen oxides) ratings are as low as 9ppm depending on model. Hot water boilers are available depending on models.



The Miura LX Series design (available in boilers from 50 -300HP) consists of rows of vertical tubes sandwiched between two rectangular headers. Both headers are encased in a castable refractory with only the tubes exposed to flame and/or combustion gases. The upper header is attached to the lower header only by the tubes. As the tubes expand and contract, the headers float up and down accordingly.

This 'floating header' concept greatly reduces stress and allows for the use of cold feedwater without the fear of significant thermal shock. The 'leaky tube' problems associated with firetube and bent watertube designs have been eliminated.

Miura boilers have a range of impressive benefits that are attracting a growing number of customers in a range of industries. Among these are: improved efficiency (fuel savings average about 20% based on customer comments); enhanced reliability through their modular design; advanced controls and advanced monitoring; and a best-in-industry safety record with zero catastrophic vessel failures resulting in casualty.

Yee-Haw's boiler system design, installation, training and ongoing support is handled by Combustion & Control Solutions of Chattanooga, represented by David Flowers.



David Flowers (left) & Cris Ellenbecker (right)

"Combustion & Control Solutions has been awesome for us, noted Ellenbecker. "They're actually the ones who come and help us do our yearly permit inspections for the city. They're super helpful. They really know what they're talking about."

Asked whether he would consider recommending Miura to another brewer, Ellenbecker responded without hesitation:

"Oh, I would absolutely recommend the Miura boiler," he said. "One of the things that I would say, is we've been running steam all over the brewery with it; and then just added another line onto it, and it hasn't skipped a beat. It's taken the full workload and then some."

About Miura Boiler: Miura Boiler was founded in 1927 and has grown to become one of the largest industrial steam boiler manufacturers in the world. In 2009, Miura opened a new U.S. manufacturing facility in Rockmart, Georgia. For more information on Miura Boiler, call in the USA 1-888-309-5574. In Canada call 1-800-666-2182. Visit Miura online at: www.miuraboiler.com.