

**"BUILT-RITE"**

**Machine Operator**  
Jeremy Smith

**Log Handler**  
John Smith

**Time**  
19 min. 6 sec.

**Cords Processed**  
1.5

**Cords/Hour**  
4.7

## Built-Rite 40SCP-HP

THE BUILT-RITE team faced a daunting sight. According to Jeremy Smith, who would later operate the Built-Rite 40 firewood processor, "The tent got completely trashed. We just patched it up as best we could for the time being." Jeremy began working for Built-Rite 15 years ago as a teenager. For the last 10 years, he has worked for the company in sales, advertising, and customer service, and is now vice-president, so he knows the machines well. His father, John Smith, is its president.

By the time the large firewood processors took the field, the sky had

actually cleared enough that a few brave souls shed their raincoats. John and Jeremy Smith carefully positioned their Built-Rite 40SCP-HP firewood

*"That 68-hp Kubota is no slacker. On these machines, you'd definitely rather have more power than not enough." —Jeremy Smith*

processor among the others on the field. Even with the tandem axles, the 7,500-pound machine left a deep impression on the soft ground. The 32-foot conveyer easily cleared the side of the waiting semitruck trailer.

Assisted by his father, Jeremy put the 68-hp Kubota diesel engine to the task of cutting, splitting, and conveying the firewood from the 15 firewood logs loaded on its deck. As Jeremy put it, "That 68-hp Kubota is no slacker. On these machines, you'd definitely rather have more power than not enough." All functions on the machine are hydraulically operated, including the live deck, infeed conveyer, clamping system, 25-inch chain saw slasher bar, hydraulic ram, wedge height, and outfeed conveyer. While the machine performed well, John said he did have a complaint about the logs. "As far as I'm concerned, you can give us some crooked logs, and also different sizes, so we can demonstrate the true capabilities of the multi."

The multi-wedge system is unique in that it incorporates a single wedge with a pair of wedges mounted on a post behind it. The operator can split a piece of wood into two, four, or eight pieces simply by

moving the desired wedge into place with a hydraulic control. According to John, "The system produces consistent firewood, no matter what size the log is."

The 19 minutes, 6 seconds the machine used to split its 1.5 cords of firewood was barely

enough to warm up the hydraulic oil. After shutting down the machine, Jeremy summed up the event. "I feel like overall it was a good event. In the future my advice would be to have rougher logs and more of them. Other than that, maybe less rain next time." ■

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