APQS offers a choice of two bobbin sizes

APQS lets you choose what size of bobbin you prefer so your machine is specifically made to your tastes and style of quilting. We have our Smart Bobbin™ (“L” size) or our Big Bobbin (“M” size).

Smart Bobbin™

Inertia is the resistance of an object to a change in its state of motion. This is good in flywheels, which help car engines idle smoothly, but bad in bobbins. That’s because of the quilting machine’s constant changes in speed and direction.

Due to inertia, an unwinding bobbin may accelerate too rapidly or continue to rotate in the unwinding direction after the thread ceases to be pulled from the bobbin. This results in loosened turns of thread known as “backlash.”

Backlash is undesirable in all types of sewing machines and is especially troublesome with high-speed quilting machines where many starts, stops and changes in speed and direction are commonplace. Backlash is also responsible for unsightly stitches, commonly referred to as loops, bird nests, etc.

Our Smart Bobbin™ has almost 50 percent less mass than the oversized bobbin. Lower mass means lower inertia, which means it can start, stop, slow down and speed up faster. It also means that less tension is required to control the bobbin. Less bobbin tension enables you to quilt with less top tension. That produces the beautiful stitches for which APQS longarm machines are famous.

Lower operating tension also reduces rubbing friction of thread through the needle eye. This enables you to use a wider range of thread types – from delicate cottons, silks and specialty threads to sturdy polyesters.

Big Bobbin

The Big Bobbin allows for fewer thread changes as it is almost twice as big as the Smart Bobbin™ (“L” size). When quilting with extremely delicate threads, the Big Bobbin (“M” size) can be loaded half full to mimic the weight of an “L” size bobbin to allow the quilter to successfully run even difficult threads. The Big Bobbin is a popular size with production quilters and many computerized quilters who are interested in high volume output.