Minster helps Metal Forming and Coining Increase Productivity

A recognized world leader in cold forming technologies, Metal Forming and Coining Corp. of Maumee, Ohio offers its wide range of customers high precision and high quality cold formed parts and related services.

In performing some secondary stamping operations, the company had originally utilized a “pick-and-place” system of several gap presses and robotics, which single-stroked the parts in a variety of stages.

As production increased, company executives began investigating the addition of a similar system. However, engineers and applications specialists at The Minster Machine Company met with Metal Forming and Coining Corp. personnel to discuss another option.

The result was first one, and now two, Minster E2 HeviStamper presses with transfer systems.

“We’ve nearly doubled production speed,” said Thomas Weinrich, President for Metal Forming and Coining Corp. “We’re running in one press instead of three, and we have a lot more flexibility now.”

Changeover was very difficult and time-consuming in the old three-press system. Now, according to Weinrich, Metal Forming and Coining is able to run four different jobs in their Minster E2 300-ton press, because of the flexible changeover.

“We had a lot of maintenance on the old system,” said Vice President of Engineering Jerry Lagger. “We have a lot less maintenance with the new Minster presses... We've more than doubled production, we have more uptime and less direct labor.”

Because of a proven track record Metal Forming and Coining decided to stick with Minster when selecting a press for the transfer operation.

“The only new presses we've ever bought since I've been here have been Minsters,” Lagger said. I was brought up in a Minster environment... They're the best thing going so that's what you stay with.

“We looked at a couple of different presses,” Lagger continued. “We could have bought two of a different brand but it just wasn't the same press -- little things like every 250 hours the clutch needs to be replaced. I said, ‘that isn’t going to work. We’ve got Minsters out there that have been running every day since I started 27 years ago, and they still have the same clutch. And this company says we’ve got to put a new clutch in every 250 hours. That doesn't make sense.”

“Our company has always had a history of first class work,” Weinrich said, “and we’ve used Minster presses because Minster is first class.”
Metal Forming and Coining utilizes numerous Minster knuckle joint presses in its core business of cold forming. Weinrich said the company puts a lot of emphasis on engineering and quality to meet the needs of its customers.

“We’ve been able to take a five-piece part that was assembled and welded and form it on the knuckle press,” he said. “The result was a stronger, more economical part for the customer.”

Having used Minster presses for several years, Weinrich said he has been impressed with the repeatability. “That’s critical in our business,” he said, “because we have to hold tolerances of plus or minus two thousandths on our parts.”

Equally important for Weinrich is the rugged durability of the Minster presses, which helps improve the company’s uptime to meet the strenuous just-in-time delivery requirements demanded by customers, especially in the automotive industry.

And perhaps there is no greater example of the presses’ durability than when a fire swept through the Metal Forming and Coining facilities during the Christmas holiday of 1980.

“The fire leveled the plant,” Weinrich said. “There was no roof left. The presses all got doused with fire, heat, soot and water. Incredibly, none of the presses were damaged. We replaced the wiring where it melted off, put up some plastic and canvas, and were making parts by the first of the year.”