Customer Case Study

Warrior Mfg:
Spearheading Superior Plate Production Practices

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CUSTOMER NAME: Warrior Mfg.
INDUSTRY: Industrial Equipment Manufacturer
LOCATION: Hutchinson, MN
CHALLENGE: Automate the plate production process to reduce cost, and increase overall efficiency
SOLUTION: Acquired the Peddinghaus HSFDB
RESULTS: 3-4 Manual Workstations Eliminated, Increased Capacity, Increased Responsiveness, Lower Scrap Waste, Increased Competitiveness

Spearheading Superior Plate Production Practices
Warrior Mfg. in Hutchinson, Minnesota manufactures robust, and innovative equipment to harness the world’s natural resources. Using Warrior’s methods, the international Grain, Feed, Fertilizer, Energy, Water Treatment, Sand & Gravel, Wind Power, and Mining industries are only more efficient in fueling today’s societies.

With a product mix so diverse, production at Warrior is anything but “another day at the office”. Here manufacturing requires a holistic approach to cost reduction, and quality assurance to ensure success. Certified by the AISC, CWB, and AWS, Warrior Mfg. is deeply committed to both superior production standards, and the advancement of their global marketplace.

Always on the cutting edge of technology, the team at Warrior is constantly looking for ways they can improve production. The ability to respond quickly when demand dictates is priority number one. In addition to responsiveness, the ability to control cost of materials, and reduce labor are also factors for success. With this in mind Warrior Mfg. made an investment in plate processing technology that has become a primary component to their competitive advantage, the HSFDB Plate Processor.
Plate Production Takes Precedence at Warrior

The discovery of the HSFDB was an unexpected breakthrough that led Paul Soukup, and his team at Warrior on a journey to even leaner manufacturing. During a fact finding mission to another steel fabricator in neighboring Wisconsin, the team learned about a very different kind of plate machine that stood apart from traditional X-Y plasma tables.

“When we saw the Peddinghaus plate machine design we knew we needed one,” stated Soukup, “Everything happens in one place on the Peddinghaus machine. There is no picking up parts and taking them to a separate station, which used to be common place in our production.”

Previously at Warrior Mfg., plate components were achieved on a typical X-Y burning table, and dispersed among several operating stations for punching. In some scenarios these parts were even transported to their Redwood Falls location (approximately 60 miles (97 km) away) for drilling, tapping, etc. If these processes were not suitable for their application plate components were simply purchased from an outside vendor. Warrior’s decision to invest in an HSFDB plate processor immediately alleviated the headaches of the previous system, and condensed plate production into a single operating cell.

“The machine eliminated 4 additional workstations within the shop. This means there are 4 people that are no longer spending their time processing plate, and can focus on other tasks such as welding, fit up, or painting.” Soukup stated, “Not only does this make our production more cost effective, but our reaction time is second to none, giving us a real competitive edge when deliveries are concerned.”

The Roller Feed Advantage.
The HSFDB’s unique Roller Feed design provides powerful production possibilities. It’s installation not only brought forth faster throughput, but provided serious scrap savings. This innovative design allows for unique cutting techniques including Edge Start, Common Cutline, or Chain Cutting. Using Shop Data Systems software (Peddinest), Edge Start cutting allows parts to be cut from the very edge of plate. Common nests are processed in zones, yielding no skeleton whatsoever, and provide the potential to create parts with as little as 5% scrap - if not less!

“We commonly process Base Plates, Tower Stiffeners, Splice Plates, Gussets, and more on our HSFDB and have seen immense drops in scrap waste compared to other plate production methods.” said Soukup, “A 10% difference between machines on common parts is a very fair...
As if scrap savings, and efficiency were not enough, pure manual intervention is lessened with the HSFDB. Operators stand safely behind protective barriers, and are not required to climb on tables to manually remove parts by hand. The Peddinghaus method of pass through production rigidly clamps, and crisply moves material through the production process. This allows for an automated dump table operation where finished parts are delivered into a bin, and easily moved to additional processes such as welding and painting. After extended production runs, only a single lift is needed to move entire nests of parts.

**Continuing with Confidence.**

“Bigger, Faster and Stronger machines are all well and good, but innovative technology is nothing without the support and people who stand behind them,” stated Paul, “Peddinghaus was always there from day one with their superior service commitment. We know if a problem ever arises, Peddinghaus is there to help us. This allows us to operate our business with the utmost confidence in our equipment.”

Looking back on their plate machine investment, Paul states with no hesitation that his decision will propel the company into the future. “When I look back at the plate machine purchase experience it was a ‘no brainer’ decision. This machine made us an even bigger player in our industry. Now that we can process our material faster, with less labor, and at a higher level of quality, the sky is the limit.” stated Paul.

To learn more about Warrior Mfg. and the products that they offer visit: http://www.warriormfgllc.com/
FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Peddinghaus Corporation visit: www.peddinghaus.com

PRODUCT LIST:
- Beam Drill Lines
- Angle Masters
- Plate Processing
- Coping Machines
- Thermal Cutting
- Automated Layout Marking
- Structural Band Saws
- Ironworkers
- Material Handling