

Customer Case Study

Company Profile

Company: Metal Solutions, Inc.

Size: €1.3M

Location: USA

Machine: Planar P150.35



Metal Solutions, Inc., formerly New Hartford Sheet Metal, is a family owned company which has been in operation since 1954 based in the state of New York. During the 1960s the company became known as a major HVAC fabricator. The 1990s saw a further transition with the company producing component parts for mass transit buses. Today Metal Solutions is a manufacturer of component parts for a wide variety of other industries including mass transit trains, air conditioning and filtration, refrigeration, metal cabinetry furniture and lighting.



Figure 1: Outside the Metal Solutions factory, Utica, New York.

Metal Solutions were using manual methods to measure and inspect parts, explained Quality Manager, Chet Chase. Since transitioning to manufacturing component parts, the company experienced a tenfold increase in sales and the number of employees and were making 75-125 new part numbers per week. Punch presses were setup for first part checks, then set up again after the first part was verified as correct.

The company was introduced to the InspecVision Planar machine by a local InspecVision distributor and decided to invest. Quality Engineer, Robert Jay says “the Planar is used daily during production, five days a week for five machines (2 Lasers and 3 Punch Presses) over two shifts. Approximately 200 different parts are inspected each day.”

“It increased our production efficiency by allowing the Laser and Punch operators verify the flat part as ‘correct’ and then run production immediately without having to tear down tools and setup a second time”

Robert Jay, Quality Engineer, Metal Solutions, Inc.

Depending on the part features, Metal Solutions would previously have spent anywhere between five minutes

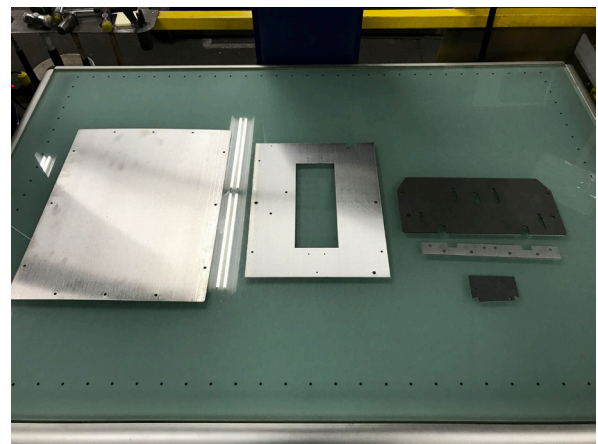


Figure 2: Type of parts Metal Solutions measure on the Planar

to multiple hours per part on inspection so it wasn't difficult to justify the investment in the Planar machine. Mr. Chase said they estimated the return on investment to be two years but they gained it in eighteen months.

The machine is used by Laser and Punch Press operators as well as programmers and it has enabled Metal Solutions to increase production efficiency. Mr Jay said the machine has allowed the Laser and Punch Press operators to verify the flat part as ‘correct’ and then run production immediately without having to tear down tools and setup a second time.

When asked about the support Metal Solutions has received from their local distributor and InspecVision, Mr. Chase described it as “excellent”. He said they require

support an average of 3-4 times annually “for occasional questions and large updates that require a download link.”

According to Mr. Chase, dust and dirt is the biggest issue for them but because the Planar machine has no moving parts it does very well in their manufacturing environment and doesn't require maintenance often. Filters are changed quarterly.



Figure 3 & 4: Planar 2D (P150.35) installed in Metal Solutions, USA



He says he would have no hesitation in recommending the Planar machine to another company. Metal Solutions has experienced the benefits of increased production efficiency due to not having to wait for parts to be measured manually and have halved the time needed for setting up tools.

To find out more information about the Planar and how it can help your business; please download our online brochure and contact our sales team at sales@inspecvision.com.

“We’ve had a very small number of minor issues in six years of use”

Chet Chase, Quality Manager, Metal Solutions, Inc.

