

Locomotive Gear Case Study: Electro-Diesel Locomotive Engine Manufacturer Eliminates Safety Hazard & Cuts Cycle Time

Customer Profile:

Engine manufacturer specializing in Electro-Diesel locomotive engine manufacturing.

12 times faster than previous method!
Improved employee safety.

Autofacer®

- Back spotfacing
- Hydraulic cylinder
- Lean process
- Cost reduction
- Quick delivery
- Engineered tooling
- Engineered solutions
- Improved cycle times

The Challenge

Spherical cut for a crab bolt on locomotive engine block with a hole size of 1-5/16" and a 10" reach. After clipping on safety harness to fixture, operator would climb up the fixture and manually attach cutting head, climb down, unhook harness, walk to the machine controls, press "go" to activate the back spotface cycle, and repeat. This method took one hour per spotface, as well as making the work environment unsafe.

The Solution

Fully automate the back spotfacing operation with a torque bar activated Autofacer.

The Results

A massive reduction in cycle time from 1 hour to 5 minutes per spotface; 12 times faster than the previous method. All the while maintaining a 63 finish and eliminating a potentially hazardous operation. Steiner Technologies was later informed that the operator was on the verge of quitting his job to this operation. Switching to the Steiner solution saved time, improved safety and saved an employee's job.



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