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EVS METAL Times

WORLD CLASS PRECISION SHEET METAL FABRICATORS

Powder.. the next step

In keeping with our focus on total customer satisfaction, EVS continues to offer new processes and services to our customers. Our latest addition is an automated powder coating system.

The finish of a part is the first and primary characteristic to be appraised by the customer, and we have long desired to control this critical process.

An internal finishing capability will enable us to offer a wider variety of finishes to our customers while maintaining total control over the process.

We believe that control over finishing will enhance our ability to react to customer needs with greater flexibility. This is another example of our desire to outpace our competitors.

As the sheet metal marketplace has evolved over the past few years, we have seen a marked increase in use of powder coatings over liquid paint finishes. There are numerous advantages to powder finishes that include ease of application, finish durability, and reduced environmental hazards.

This is a further compliment to our increase in manufacturing capacity in the past year. Coupled with our automated punching and forming equipment, internal finishing will enable EVS to continue to grow and increase our overall market share.

by Scott Philhower-QA Manager

Trade Show Dates

Atlantic Design Show
June 5-7, 2001,
Jacob Javits Center New York City

Job Shop Show - New England
November 14-15, 2001,
Royal Plaza Trade Center
Marlborough, MA

Job Shop Show - Southwest
October 10-12, 2001,
Dallas Convention Center
Dallas, TX

Automation!

Given the benefits realized since the installation of the AMADA MP-1225 load/unload system in May of 2000, EVS has commited itself to further innovations in the area of automated punching.

To this end, we have installed a second automated load/unload/punching workcenter, the AMADA FMS (Flexible Manufacturing System), This system has vastly increased capacity and productivity rates over the MP-1225.

The Amada FMS consists of a Vipros 358, an AS 6410 six stacker and a UL 410 unloader, which combine for a load/unload rate of 15 seconds per sheet, with a maximum capacity of over ten tons of raw material when fully loaded.

This enables us to queue enumerable jobs to run unattended and uninterrupted at all times. With the ability to remotely monitor and control the system via the internet, our manufacturing flexiblity is enhanced during off-shifts and over weekends.

This system is a further compliment to our inventory of state-of-the-art fabrication equipment and another example of our commitment to being the top supplier of precision sheet metal products in the marketplace.

by Lee Grzywinski-Production Manager

ISO Update

The quality system continues to evolve!

EVS has been operating under our ISO 9002 system for nearly 9 months now, and the system is continuing to evolve. We have completed our first surveillance audit, and continue to identify improvement opportunities through internal auditing.

We are seeing lasting effects as our workforce gains more knowledge of the system and the interrelation of our processes. As we look forward, the ISO 9002 quality system has definitely provided EVS with a solid foundation for growth and success in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

by Scott Philhower-QA Manager

Engineering for Powder Coating

Q: Currently, I have parts which are painted using a liquid paint. I would like to consider switching to powder coating. What are the factors I need to weigh?

A: This is a question that is being asked more and more as powder coating gains popularity and environmental restrictions become more rigorous.

The application of powder entails the transfer of a charged, relatively benign powder onto an electrically grounded part. The curing of the powder is done at approximately 400 degrees fahrenheit and releases no VOC's throughout the process.

Because the powder has an affinity for all of the grounded surfaces, it is therefore critical to determine which areas, if any need to remain paint free. All threads as well as any grounding surfaces must be masked and thought out carefully.

Powder coat masking products are not inexpensive, thus masking costs can mount quickly. Well-engineered parts will minimize masking and will enable the use of stock products that reduce handling time.

Suppliers of powder offer a variety of stock products, but unlike liquid paint custom matched colors must be manufactured as a special, are subject to significant minimum quantities, and their characteristics cannot be altered at the time of application.

Most sheet metal parts are good candidates for powder coating, offering the potential for gains in finish durability as well as cost and lead time reductions.

If you would like more information on specifying powder coating on your products, feel free to contact EVS Metal's Engineering Department.

by Tom Supko-Engineering Manager

Asked which of his works he would select as his masterpiece, architect Frank Lloyd Wright at age 83 replied, "My next one."

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