

Customer

solutions

Industry / Application: Foundry
Success: **Reduced Cycle Times**
Company: Osco
Contacts: Mark Miller, Industrial Engineer
Lee Daily, Finishing Supervisor
Date: March 2005



Tom McGranahan and Mark Miller

OSCO, a manufacturer of electrical air compressors and castings, called Wheelabrator Group to better assess their current finishing needs. OSCO utilized two Wheelabrator® 28 cu ft Tumbblast® machines in their finishing department and needed to eliminate the constraint within their entire finishing department.

The Wheelabrator Plus outside technical sales team, working with Mark Miller, Industrial Engineer and Lee Daily, Finishing Supervisor at OSCO, analyzed the problems and concluded that, by replacing the one, 75 hp 25BD 150 wheel assemblies on each machine, they would resolve the bottleneck and improve the productivity of the department.

Engineers within the Wheelabrator Plus Equipment Modernization program worked with OSCO manufacturing to schedule the modifications with only a minimal impact to the production during the installation. During a planned weekend shutdown, the Wheelabrator Plus service team went to work to modernize OSCO's machines.

OSCO's goals were achieved. Depending on the part processed and the abrasive mix, an estimate 30% reduction in cycle times were achieved. Mr. Miller states that OSCO is "totally impressed and satisfied with the concept and results and will bring us back to do business again."

The ability of Wheelabrator Plus to have this kind of impact begins with the Customer Technology Center and the R&D department. The initial designs for the new wheel began in 2002 and now incorporates a complete EZEFIT™ family of wheels. Designed for improved costs, and increased process controls, the family of EZEFIT wheels is a perfect compliment to improve existing wheelblast equipment.

The customer opportunity is typically the genesis of the improvement process. While working with the customer's respective department, the EMP (Equipment Modernization Program) team and the Wheelabrator Plus sales representative will develop executable strategies to maximize the potential of the customer's wheel blast operation. The addition of cast liner packages, automated material handling, safety and environmental improvements and improved wheel performance are just some of the solutions Wheelabrator Plus offers to better utilize existing wheel blast equipment.