

MTI Control Retrofit Increases Productivity By 300%



Highlights

- ✓ Previously roughing at 20ipm with existing technology, now roughing at 120ipm with the new MTI control retrofitted to the Droop & Rein machine.
- ✓ Easiest control to run, the operators love it!
- ✓ The mid program restart feature is reducing downtime and making the operators much more efficient.
- ✓ The 1989 Droop & Rein is now out performing the new machines on the shop floor.

Company Profile

COMPLEX AUTOMOTIVE MOLDS Prospect Mold was established in 1945 and has grown into a modern, highly sophisticated shop. Since it's founding, Prospect Mold has engaged in a relentless drive for improvement and perfection. In doing so, they have earned a reputation for delivering complex compression and injection molds of the highest quality. In an effort to diversify and strengthen their core abilities, Prospect has dramatically increased the use of 5-axis machining to enter into the aerospace tooling market.

Industry: Automotive / Aerospace
Activity: Mold Manufacture
Employees: 90

Prospect Mold, equipped with state of the art machinery and coupled with a very talented group of employees, intends on remaining a world class leader in their industry. The companies goals of meeting and exceeding their customers expectations is the backbone of their success.

Teamwork between the employees and interaction with their customers are the cornerstones that built and grew Prospect Mold. Prospect Mold is proud of their extensive and diverse past, yet they are even more excited about their future. The new MTI technology is part of the future for Prospect Mold.

"The MTI Retrofit has increased our roughing productivity on our machine by 300%"

Duane Shroyer – Vice President

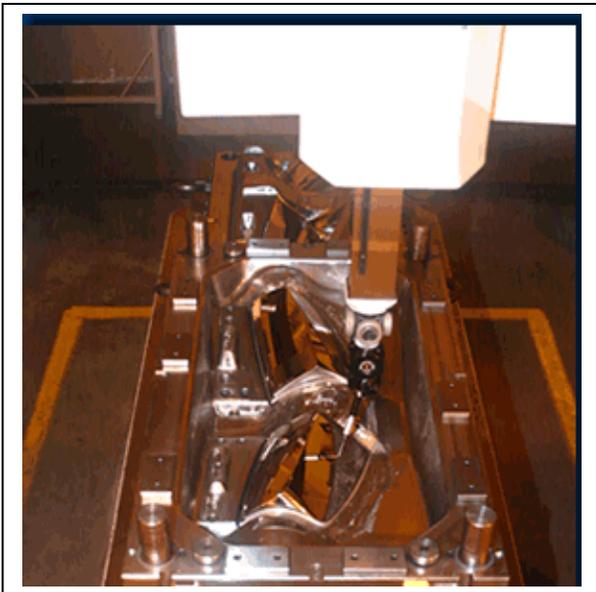


Sample Cavity & Core

Project Details

Prospect Mold needed to upgrade their older 1989 Droop & Rein machine. Their first experience with the MTI technology was during an open house where their operator was introduced to the Revolution machine equipped with an MTI control. From the very beginning, the operator was pleasantly surprised at how user friendly the control was. This is now the operator's favorite control to run. "GBI's initial claims of increasing productivity by 50 to 100% were taken with great skepticism" states Duane, "but that is exactly what we are achieving". In fact the 21 year old machine is running smoother and faster than machines that have been recently installed. The overall productivity gain has been closer to 300%.

One of the critical factors in the very competitive automotive market is being able to produce quality parts at the lowest possible cost. The margins are tight to begin with and the very tight market conditions have only made things more competitive.



Many jobs that Prospect Mold lost to competitors was due to the amount of roughing time they were quoting. Having the ability to significantly reduce the amount of roughing time, while simultaneously improving surface finish is enabling Prospect Mold to compete on jobs that they could not have previously. Even the ownership of Prospect Mold was impressed when they first saw their 21 year old machine cutting the Mercedes part at 200ipm. Seeing the improvement possibilities first hand was very exciting for all of those involved at Prospect Mold.

Adopting the new MTI constant velocity technology is in line with Prospect's goal of getting better & faster to reduce the cost of goods produced at their facility. The implementation of leading edge technology is giving them a much needed competitive advantage.

Another significant benefit seen by the operators is the mid program restart capability. "With a simple, step by step sequence the MTI control enables us to get back into production faster and easier than any other control we have worked with" states Duane. The operators love this feature. In addition, the panel layout itself is very simple and easy to work with.

"The overall project that was completed late last year took approximately 12 weeks to complete. Working with the team from GBI Cincinnati was great", Duane added. "They took the time to explain everything and made sure our guys knew how to use the technology – they have a wealth of knowledge".

With the first project completed, Prospect Mold is planning on using the MTI constant velocity control technology when they need to improve the productivity of additional machines or when looking to purchase new machines. The project was a great success!