

G-Force® Impresses Physician In Annual Injury Prevention Visit

For hydraulic cylinder manufacturer Best Metal Products, a great solution is something you don't mess around with. The company purchased a 1320 lb capacity G-Force® to handle their increasingly heavy products in the summer of 2009, and they knew they found a lifting solution that they could bank on for the future.

“There was a definite ‘wow factor’ the first time we saw the G-Force®,” said Matt Malfroid, Quality & Training Supervisor for Best Metal Products. “Everyone who touched it was amazed with the ability to float such large parts.”

As it turns out, the employees using the G-Force® weren't the only ones impressed. The company is very proactive in injury prevention, and hosts an annual visit by a local physician to evaluate the work processes and highlight anything that might be an injury risk.



“They were really impressed this year,” said Malfroid. “As we've expanded, we've been very conscious of putting in solutions that really help out workers and reduce the risk of injury. The physician that came in really liked what he saw in the G-Force®.”

The original G-Force® installed was a 1320 pound capacity Q model with Float Mode and a high capacity magnet to grip parts. The G-Force® was installed onto an existing Gorbel work station crane with a 2,000 pound capacity aluminum bridge. It is used to the final process in assembling hydraulic cylinders that measure 8 to 10 feet long and weigh over 1,000 pounds.



“Since we installed the first G-Force®, we've added an entirely new work bay for machining these heavier cylinders,” said Malfroid. “We didn't need to shop around. We knew we liked the G-Force®, so we brought in two more.”

The new work cell is covered by a Gorbel work station crane with two 2 ton capacity aluminum bridges. Each bridge holds a 1320 lb capacity G-Force® to lift large cylinders into CNC Mazak lathes and back draft welding tables.

Prior to the G-Force® units, workers were lifting the heavy components by hand, and injuries were piling up. “We just didn't have a safe way to lift them,” said Malfroid. “It was all by man power, mostly using multiple people per lift. We were having back injuries, stress and strains of shoulders. Those are obviously things we want to avoid.”



Worker response to the G-Force® was immediately positive, and there has not been a single lifting injury since they were installed.

“They are using it everyday, which keeps them from lifting anything manually,” said Malfroid.