



Custom Supports For Work Station Cranes Give Machine Shop Freedom & Flexibility

Industry Group: Ergonomic Assist Systems and Equipment (EASE)



Just In Time CNC Machining, Inc. was relocating to a new facility and looking for a lifting solution that would be flexible as the company continued to grow. The materials processed here range from large production runs to smaller runs or prototypes, which means they handle a wide variety of size and weight.

Issues: Due to the layout of the facility, Just In Time (JIT) was looking for one crane system that would service several CNC machines and the full selection of products without interfering with the current flow of materials.

The building they were moving into was leased, and ceilings were very high, which made the application less suitable for a ceiling mounted system. The location of building columns, CNC machines and loading bays provided plenty of obstacles to work around, and made fitting one floor supported crane system into the facility a significant challenge.

Gorbel's Solution:

JIT purchased a Gorbel freestanding work station crane with three 23-foot long, 1000 pound capacity aluminum bridges.

The supports for the system were staggered to allow the system's 124' runways to cover the length of the building and remain centered over each of the

area's CNC machines and work bays.

Since installing the crane, JIT has added two more small machines which are covered by the crane system, and has enjoyed a highly productive, injuryfree workplace. "It's great having the multiple bridges, because if one is busy, we've still got two available and you're not waiting on someone to finish. The workers really liked the Gorbel system since day one. Productivity is very good, and we haven't had any lifting injuries since we've been in this building."

Results:

The customer was very happy with the Gorbel crane, and the process of custom designing the system. "Through the whole process of moving our operation to a new building, the Gorbel work station crane was probably the most simple, painless thing we did," said Jim Alexander, Owner of JIT Machine.



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