



An "Outside the Box" Solution Helps Increase Productivity for Electrical Enclosure Manufacture

Features and Benefits

Two person job is now one person job

5 to 6% increase in productivity since installation

Freed up work area

Industry Group: Ergonomic Assist Systems and Equipment (EASE)



A Midwestern manufacturer of electrical enclosures splits its time building both standard stock and high end custom enclosures for their customers, so they know what it's like to go out of their way to create a unique solution for customer satisfaction. At the main fabrication site, their off the shelf material handling solution wasn't working for them.

Problems

- The Jib Crane they were using was right in the middle of their work space
- Couldn't rotate the steel doors the 360 degrees needed because the post of the jib was in the way
- The tooling could not rotate the doors horizontally so two workers had to manually lift and rotate the doors for the tool to connect to it

"It was a jib system that gave us 12 feet of coverage, but we couldn't rotate 360-degrees and the post of the jib was right in the middle of the work area taking up space. The end effector wouldn't allow us to pick up the doors from a horizontal position, so we would end up having two guys pick up the door and rotate it just so we could then pick it up with the lifting device. "

Solution

The solution is comprised of a freestanding monorail system that is 23 feet long and features two parallel

runways supporting a platform-mounted articulating jib crane with 360-degree rotation and 7-foot reach. At the end of the jib is a torque arm with a Gorbels G-Force® Q with 660 pound capacity and a vacuum end tool that allows for a 90-degree tilt and 360-degree rotation.

Results

“We’re very happy with the Gorbels system,” said the Operations Manager. “Over the course of two shifts, this lifting happens probably 150 times. Streamlining it has been great. We’ve been able to take the second person off of this job and move them to another job in the factory. Even with one less person, we’ve seen about a 5 or 6 percent increase in productivity in the 8 months we’ve been using the Gorbels products.”



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