

Investment to eliminate variable costs

Metal Processes (1959) Limited, one of the UK's first flat bed laser cutting sub-contractors, recently placed two separate orders for Bystronic laser cutting systems, a ByVention and a BySpeed. The orders total in excess of £650,000.

Metal Processes chairman and director John Hayward commented: "With laser technological advances improving each year, companies have to follow laser specialists trends and invest in order to expand and provide their customers with the best service possible from the best machines available."

When it came to updating a laser cutting machine Mr Hayward analysed 12 months of incoming orders received by Metal Processes and concluded that 59% fell into a footprint of 700 mm x 1500 mm. Not only this, due to space restrictions, a new laser had to be able to occupy the space left by its predecessor. The new machine had to handle a large amount of work but have a small footprint.

Metal Processes has several Bystronic laser cutting systems and all share the same software. "We naturally went to Bystronic when looking at a new laser,"

said Mr Hayward. "We work actively with Bystronic and the software is common to all the machines. In addition, we have four qualified CAD engineers competent in the use of the Bysoft software making light work of urgent requirements and the service offered by Bystronic meets our demanding needs."

Bystronic advised Mr Hayward to look at the ByVention, particularly because of its cutting area of 1562 x 772 mm and, when equipped with the 2.2 kW resonator, its ability to cut a maximum sheet thickness of 4 mm for aluminium, 6 mm for stainless steel and 8 mm for mild steel. One major characteristic of the ByVention is its compact design, requiring just 6000 x 6000 mm of floor space and therefore was ideal for the available space.

"The production outputs we are achieving per square metre of machine spaces makes the ByVention a very productive laser cutting system," continues Mr Hayward. "It is very easy to set up and also very accurate which is essential to our business."

Just months after investing in the ByVention Metal Processes purchased



a BySpeed laser cutting centre. The BySpeed is Bystronic's fastest Laser cutting machine capable of cutting 600 holes per minute with simultaneous accelerations of over 4G.

"We had two BySprint lasers six years old and we have had many hours of cutting out of them running multiple shifts. However, they were costing money to maintain each year and we felt that in this economic climate it was prudent to reduce and even eliminate our variable costs," said Mr Hayward. "We took the decision to replace both the BySprint lasers with the single BySpeed laser cutting centre, which will provide greater productivity. "

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