

Nuway Industries improves productivity by more than 400%

Nuway Industries Inc. in Des Plaines, IL is a manufacturer of metal enclosures for use in telecommunication and printing applications. During their welding fabrication process they used “lazy-susan” type turn tables to turn and rotate these enclosures. With some of these enclosures reaching 74 inches in length and weighing in excess of 125 lbs, the manipulation, even with help of turn tables, became cumbersome and a limiting factor in the production output. It was the lifting and turning of the enclosures that was viewed as particularly awkward.

Today the Ergo Control programmable positioner manipulates and turns these long and heavy cabinets with ease. The new operation also requires only one operator to complete the entire welding operation. “The results are quite impressive,” claims Ray Sheppard, the shop welding supervisor. “One welder is today completing the same cabinet in 25 minutes that earlier took two welders one hour,” continues Mr. Sheppard.

Before Nuway installed the Ergo Control positioner, the operators occasionally missed welding points. This omission was sometimes not detected until late in the process, for example, when the cabinet had reached the paint line. The Ergo Control positioner minimize missed welds, since each weld step is pre-programmed into the machine’s memory, causing automatic stops at each desired weld position. ”The operator knows that the Ergo Control stops at a particular point for a reason and that he

is to perform an operation in this stop position. “It is no longer necessary for the operator to remember the details of each job sequence and location of each particular weld,” says Mr. Sheppard.

The Ergo Control also allows the product to come to the operator in an optimum position, further improving the quality of the welds. Mr. Sheppard also adds, “Since no handling of the cabinet is required during the entire weld operation, there is no risk of causing undesired scratches on the cabinets, as so often were experienced before on all the surfaces facing the turn tables.”



Figure: An Ergo Control optimizes the position of the product for the worker.