

At Plessey, Minster Die-Namics reduce lead time of a typical part run from 10 days to 1 day.

Whether it's telephones or telemetry; radio, radar or sonar; aircraft communications equipment or weapons control for the modern warship, Plessey can supply the technology and components to make them work. The Plessey Company Limited, based in the United Kingdom, is a worldwide industrial organization specializing in communications and electronics.

Due to the nature of their business, they have a need for many types of stamped parts. Many of the parts, however, are needed only in limited quantities. Typical batch runs for these parts seldom exceed 5000, with normal runs averaging only about 1400 pieces. Using conventional presses and die sets, it was not unusual for them to spend more time changing dies than running the parts. Press utilization was low and maintenance of the old equipment was high. Because some of their old presses would have to be replaced, it was deemed an appropriate time to investigate ways of improving the total operation.

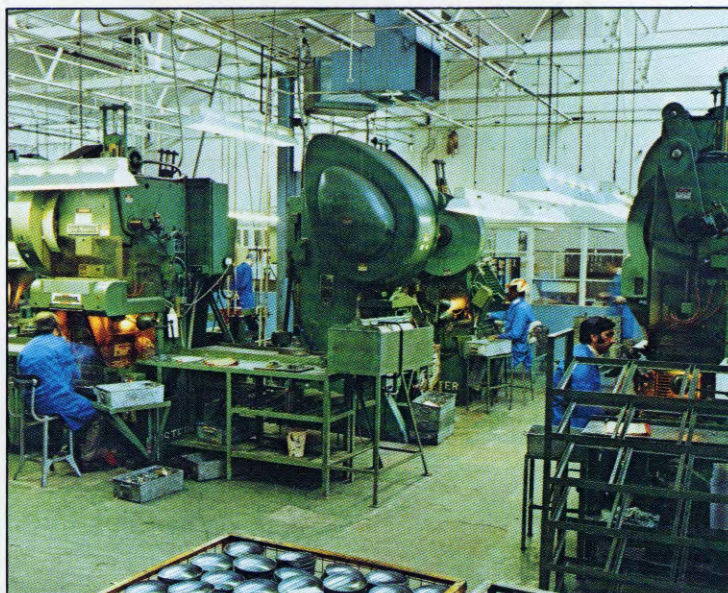
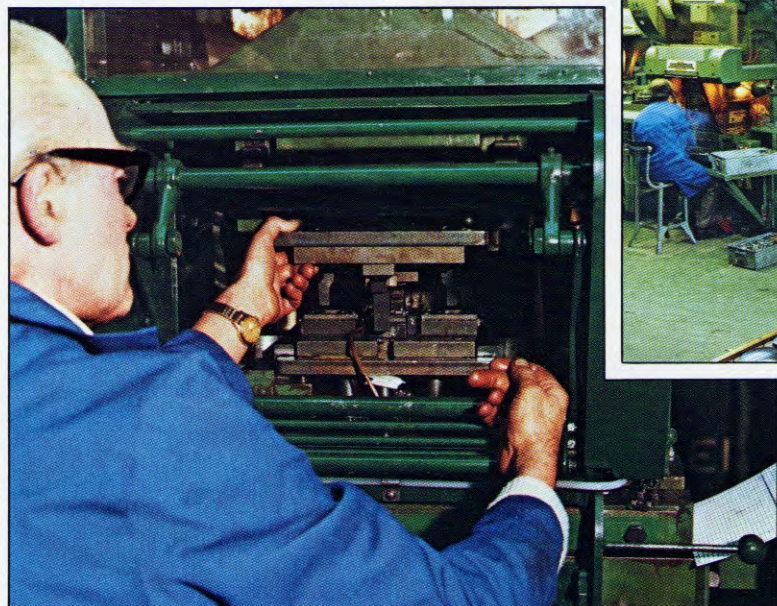
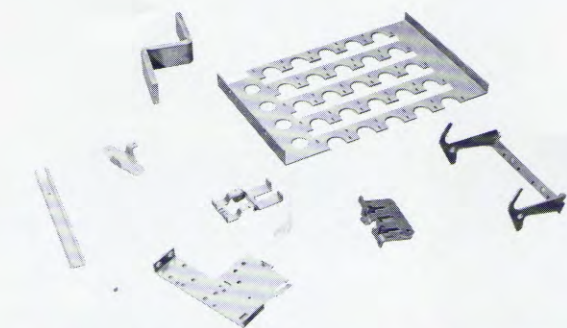
The Plessey investigative team found that by using Minster's Die-Namic process, the time required to change dies could be reduced from 35 minutes to less than 3 minutes. Better yet, the dies could be changed by the press operator with no lost time waiting for the die setter. The improved efficiency of the process would permit better press utilization and allow them to replace 12 conventional presses with only eight Die-Namics. More floor space would become available for other equipment, and dies could be built at considerably less cost by using standard Die-Namic die plates.

Based upon the group's favorable assessment, the Plessey establishment at Nottingham, England, ordered their first series of Minster Die-Namic presses. The year was 1971. Shortly thereafter, the profitable, time-saving benefits expected from the total Die-Namic program began to materialize. Press utilization was up; the cost of new dies was down; additional floor space became available because less die

storage space was needed and fewer presses were required to maintain production schedules.

Concerning the conversion, Dan Roberts, Manufacturing Manager (Machines and Processes) of Plessey, said, "Minster Die-Namics have reduced the lead time of a typical part run from 10 days to 1 day — a 90% savings. Our press utilization problem was overcome by reducing the time required for die setting and the skill required to do it. The Die-Namics enable us to process small quantities at a rate comparable to normal batch production . . . and tool-making costs have been reduced by 20%."

Special production problems require special solutions. Perhaps Minster Die-Namics can provide a special solution to your difficult short-run stamping problems.



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