Gearing Up Automated Cutting Productivity

Praxair’s StarSolver® Productivity Enhancement Program helps customers restore efficiency and reduce costs

A key element of a thriving business is maximizing productivity through process and facility optimization. Praxair’s Metfab Productivity Specialists (MPS) team has answers to your toughest process improvement questions. Trained in the latest technologies, these specialists bring expertise, combined with decades of insight and experience, to bear in order to help customers solve even the most challenging productivity shortfalls, sometimes with little or no capital investment.

Degradation in system performance can lead to a loss of productivity, poor product quality and an increase in waste and rejected materials—all of which jeopardize your profitability. Through Praxair’s StarSolver Productivity Enhancement Program, the MPS team will design a program tailored to your operational needs to help solve even your most challenging problems. The StarSolver program incorporates process analysis and facility evaluations, with as little disruption to your work as possible. The team’s goal is to identify the causes for shortfalls as well as opportunities to improve production throughput while minimizing reject rates and labor costs. The StarSolver program also includes an evaluation of operational machinery. The MPS team can analyze all makes and models of cutting equipment and determine what is needed to repair, retrofit and/or modify old machines to “like-new” performance.

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| Evaluate Equipment Productivity | ▪ Determine Repair, Retrofit or Modification Needs  
▪ Identify Equipment Potential Failure  
▪ Determine Cost/Benefit of Repair/Retrofit |
| Analyze Operations | ▪ Optimize and Improve Processes  
▪ Reduce Operational Costs  
▪ Uncover Operator Errors |
| Expert Cut Automation Analysis | ▪ Improve Cutting Productivity  
▪ Improve Plasma Arc Consumable Life  
▪ Reduce Post-cut Cleanup  
▪ Decrease Pierce Time |
| Actionable Recommendations | ▪ Increase Productivity by 20-40%  
▪ Reduce Operational Costs  
▪ Lower Consumables Costs  
▪ Increase Facility Efficiency |
| Unrivaled Technical Support | ▪ Strategically located MPS and National Service teams across the U.S. providing industry-leading responsiveness and the ability to service most makes and models of equipment |

Schedule a StarSolver Productivity Enhancement Program today and optimize your productivity.

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StarSolver Analysis for Automated Cutting Operations

The StarSolver analysis incorporates multiple stages of process and facility evaluations to provide recommendations for reduced operational costs, increased productivity and optimized labor efficiencies. Your analysis may include:

- **Overall Cost Reduction up to 25% or more**

  - **Machine Analysis**
    - Process choice (plasma or oxy-fuel)
    - Torch analysis (number and configuration of torch stations)
    - Table type (downdraft or water tables)
    - Condition of machine and components
    - Consumables life and usage analysis

  - **Customer Experience**
    - Reject and rework rates
    - Cut quality and process performance
    - Final product quality
    - Downtime

  - **Gas and Supply**
    - Supply mode inefficiencies and appropriateness
    - Piping design, layout and performance
    - Air supply quality

  - **System Operation**
    - Programmer processes
    - Computer control
    - System control
    - Operational deficiencies

**StarSolver Results**

Using Praxair’s StarSolver program, the MPS team provides a realistic, actionable plan for process improvements that help increase productivity, optimize efficiency, reduce operational costs, lower reject rates, minimize downtime and ensure success. Customers who undergo a StarSolver analysis and utilize the resulting MPS team recommendations frequently see productivity improvements as high as 25% or more.