

Spinner Stahlbau GmbH and Messer Cutting Systems:

Quick and easy time savings through control upgrade



Efficient production cycles at Spinner Stahlbau GmbH: The "Joblist" function on the Messer Global Control CNC makes it possible to load four plates at a time to cut them then one after the other with the Messer MultiTherm®.

Optimised MultiTherm® shortens cutting process by 40 percent

Contoured tread plates made of steel make an important contribution to safety on stairs or as a floor covering. To produce them cost effectively and economically is an easy task with modern gantry cutting machines. To run their production at maximum efficiency the steel fabricators Stahlbau Spinner GmbH from Renchen used a system consisting of a Messer MultiTherm®-cutting machine, the control Global Control^{plus} and specially tuned software – about 40 percent time saving was their reward for this optimisation.

For a customer order Spinner Stahlbau GmbH in Renchen-Erlach had to cut some 7,500 pieces of 3 mm thick contoured tread plates in one-man operation. To be able to complete this order faster than previously and with the highest quality, the customer wanted some optimisations on their Messer MultiTherm® 3600. "The biggest potential for this order was in the control. For this we carried out an appropriate upgrade of their Global Control to enable the customer to save the maximum amount of manual work.", explains Thorsten

Wittek, project manager at Messer Cutting Systems in Groß-Umstadt.

Upgrade achieves savings potential
Where a high manual effort from the machine operator is required by many contract cutters – namely for loading the cutting table – Spinner achieved an enormous relief through the software upgrade of the Messer control: The "Joblist" function now made it possible for four plates, for example, to be loaded simultaneously and then to be cut one after another. As soon as the first plate is finished, the torch travels

The Messer cutting system is particularly easy to operate with the Global Control cnc. An automatic Back-up program saves the database contents to a server.



to the following second plate whilst a special lifting device already removes the first plate. When the third plate is reached then two new plates are loaded again. Result: The programmed job is continuously processed without interruption. Within one hour Spinner GmbH achieved a throughput of 14 plates instead of the previous seven.

A further requirement to improve efficiency was to reduce non productive times. The process "optimisation function" makes it possible to reduce or eliminate non productive times through a specially developed algorithm. This occurs in the Global Control automatically depending on the cutting process. Parameters which can be adjusted permit a fine tuning to be carried out by the operator. The result is an optimisation of the process cycles and an increase in the machine efficiency.

Data safety though automatic back-up
Optimised process parameters usually require tedious establishment and are the capital of a company. To save such data was very high on the list of requirements. However gantry cutting machines are not necessarily employed under the optimum conditions for sensitive computer technology; above all the hard disc in the computer is exposed to tough conditions. To achieve data security in this area, Messer integrated a back-up program which mirrors the contents of the control hard disc onto an appropriate server or back-up drive. Thus all data is always saved to a safe place, should the hard disc fail or the installation be destroyed by a virus or other modifications.

Optimum service – smooth operation
Ralf Siebert, who is responsible for the development of thermal cutting at Spinner GmbH: "We are completely satisfied with what is in the meantime our second Messer machine: The good consultancy, cooperation and fast order processing for the upgrade from Messer all ran perfectly. The results not only satisfied our requirements and expectations but actually significantly exceeded them. The fact that we did not have one single complaint with the roughly 200 tonne order for about 7,500 plates speaks volumes for the high quality we achieved with the machine upgrade."

MultiTherm®: Fast and Flexible
The Messer MultiTherm® is a gantry cutting machine with many facets, which can be tailored to the application required quite individually, for example with Plasma units, multiple torch oxyfuel cutting, marking or a combination of all processes. Coupled with the newest generation of plasma cutting equipment, the system achieves the highest cutting quality and maximum productivity. What is more, a MultiTherm® can be reequipped for another cutting operation at any time, creating a flexible system ready for the future. The unit can be set up very quickly thanks to the user-friendly CNC control Global Control.

With a touch-screen and database, all parameters can be entered or called up in the shortest time. Gas pressures, plasma current and consumables can be read off the TFT monitor.

Through the possibility of combining oxyfuel and plasma cutting processes, the MultiTherm® covers a wide spectrum of materials and cutting tasks. With twin-sided longitudinal drives and high accelerations, the torches can be sped over the plate at up to 35 meters per minute. This saves time between cuts and ensures a smooth production.

To sum up:
Spinner Stahlbau GmbH have achieved enormous time savings through the upgrade of the Global Control to their Messer MultiTherm® system when cutting contoured tread plates. Thanks to the comprehensive service and fast order processing by Messer, Spinner were able to complete a major order in even shorter time and with the highest quality.



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