

# FACTIVITY

## CASE STUDY - MATE PRECISION TOOLING

### THE CHALLENGE

Because each tool was customer specific, product routing and tracking was very difficult and labor intensive. Lead times were running 3-5 weeks.

### THE SOLUTION

Install FACTIVITY, which decreased lead times by 35% and doubled production within 3 years.

### THE RESULTS

- Increased production by 200%
- Delivery time reduced by 35%
- Improved worker efficiency
- Improved employee morale
- Increased visibility of orders both on the floor and in customer service
- Decreased tracking time spent by foreman from several hours per day to 30 minutes

*“FACTIVITY is a useful tool for keeping everything under control. We’d be lost without FACTIVITY.”*

--Phil Ernst, Mate Precision

Mate Precision Tooling is a manufacturer of precision punch press tooling and accessories used in sheet metal fabrication. They have headquarters in Minnesota and have offices in Europe and Asia. Their US facility includes four different manufacturing areas with approximately 400 employees. One of the manufacturing areas, the “Custom Team”, manufactures customized products and special assemblies. “This portion of the business was viewed as a required service for customers, but not as one with great opportunity. But, as the company grew and developed, it became apparent that custom orders were a growing business,” states Phil Ernst, Production Manager.

### ■ HOW MES COULD GROW THEIR BUSINESS

Mate Precision Tooling determined they needed to grow this portion of their business to keep a competitive edge. They also needed to decrease lead times which would enable them to increase production. Other goals included:

- Easy-to-use operator interface
- Enable faster and more accurate delivery of products
- Use software robust enough to handle their varied production
- Interface compatibility with their ERP system
- A reliable software company who would provide effective support after installation

FACTIVITY was chosen because it met these requirements. It also had the easiest to use operator interface.

### ■ PROBLEM-FREE INSTALLATION & TRAINING

Installation of FACTIVITY took approximately four days. Since the floor employees were very apprehensive about the need for a factory floor computer system, a special training demonstration was set up. Employees were able to follow a simulated order from station to station until it was complete. This demonstrated how FACTIVITY could help them become more proactive and efficient. Once the workstations were installed on the manufacturing floor, the employees practiced with orders over the next month.

