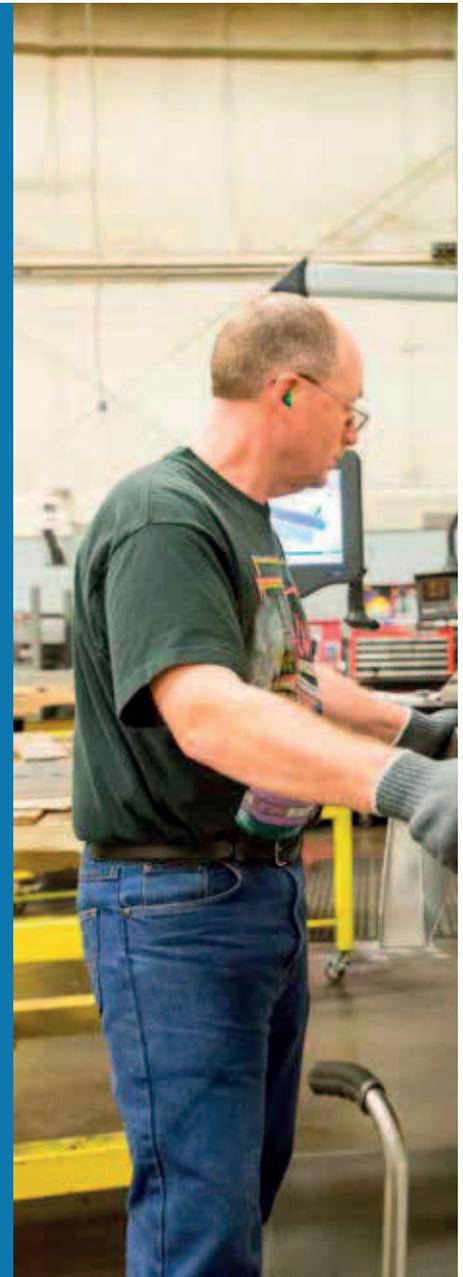


PUNCH + PRESS + LASER + CADMAN

= QUALITY x SPEED

At Mid-West all three sheet metal technologies are integrated through the CADMAN® network, so LVD-Strippit experts can problem solve online without a site visit. “You could call and tell someone what the machine is doing, but when they log in using LVD Teleservice and actually see it on their screen, ‘Ah!’ They can see what’s the matter,” explains Archie Adamisin, sheet metal engineering manager. “That differentiates LVD.”



Mid-West Metal Products Loads Up On Latest LVD Technology

In the 1980s **Mid-West Metal Products** grew to become the US market leader in wire pet cages. Despite their automation capabilities the firm moved production overseas a decade later. The remaining wire and sheet metal equipment became

the Mid-West industrial division now headed by Steve Confer.

Wire pet products produced through Mid-West Homes for Pets are still the company’s largest business at 80 percent. The remaining 20 percent comes from the industrial division’s domestic manufacturing and job shop.



“A part that used to take 45 minutes to set up now takes five.”





“CADMAN also allows experienced press operators to make corrections on the fly.”

Mid-West Metal Products’ production floor exhibits the latest LVD-laser, press brake and punch press networked through CADMAN software.

Adamisin recalls when Dan Caprio, LVD-Strippit punching product sales manager, visited as the Mid-West team was struggling with punching an especially problematic part on the then new VX. Caprio asked, “Have you considered CADMAN?”.

“It didn’t take much convincing after a free software trial”, admits Adamisin. Perhaps the biggest efficiency gain came from integrating CADMAN-B with Mid-West’s new PPEC press brake, resulting in substantial setup reduction. “A part that used to take 45 minutes to set up now takes five. What’s more, integrating CADMAN with the new PPEC press brake gives new life to the company’s older LVD-Strippit workhorse press brakes”, explains Adamisin. “If the PPEC is tied up, we print the setup sheet that tells you to put these punches and dies in this place in that old press and it works.” CADMAN also allows experienced press operators to make

corrections on the fly. Adamisin: “If the press operator makes changes on the floor, it changes it on the database file. So, before we make an engineering change, we can see what he did.”

Quality and speed

Mid-West installed their latest LVD machine, a Sirius laser, in 2014. “The machine easily cuts even the most challenging plate steel”, says Adamisin. And by nesting in CADMAN for the laser and turret, the company achieves more parts per sheet than before, thereby reducing the use of materials.

Such speedy problem solving helps Mid-West focus on its own company strengths: quality and on-time delivery. “When a customer comes to us, they want it the next day or next week,” says Brad Anderson, industrial division plant manager. “And we can usually turn parts around quickly – with quality.”

Admits Confer, “A lot of our customers get their first shipment and say, ‘I can’t believe you’re already done with this.’”