LVD’s Global Perspective

DISCOVERY

ISSUE NUMBER 14

Take the Lead
WITH LVD SHEET METALWORKING TECHNOLOGY

Strippit PX-Series:
More than just a punch press

Easy-Form® and PPEB Series:
The latest generation of machines

It’s Electric: fast, accurate and efficient bending

Galva Coat lights the skyline of Dubai

One piece flow conveyor production for
German manufacturer AMF-Bruns

Photo credit: Dubai Airports
Editor’s Letter

Strippit PX-Series: The most capable punch press ever

New design takes full advantage of bending power

Advanced technology sets lighting pole manufacturer poles apart from the competition

LVD Impuls laser and PPEB press brake enables one-piece part flow at German manufacturer

Dyna-Press keeps small part bending fast, efficient and accurate

Recent Installations

Brazilian vehicle lift manufacturer captures share of growing market

More News from LVD Worldwide

Editorial Notes:

Keep in tune with the latest products and advancements designed to help you reap higher yields, streamline efficiency, and reduce setup and scrap. Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter at www.lvdgroup.com.

Let us know what you think of this issue of Discovery. Share your thoughts at marketing@lvd.be or connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn or YouTube.

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From the EDITOR

In memory of Marc Vanneste

This issue of Discovery is dedicated in memory of one of the founding members of LVD, Marc Vanneste, who passed away peacefully at home in Knokke-Heist, Belgium on 29th March 2013.

Mr Vanneste started LVD in 1952 with Jacques Lefebvre and later Robert Dewulf and together they built LVD from a small national company into a truly international machine tool company. Over his 38 years in the business and up until his retirement in 1990 Mr Vanneste was actively involved in sales for the company. His passion for the business and understanding of his customers’ and employees’ needs are testament to the culture that remains in LVD to this day.

Enabling their clients to stay one step ahead of the competition was always key to the founding members’ strategy for continual new product and process development. That’s why in this issue of Discovery we focus on ‘Taking the Lead’, whether that be with the introduction of new products such as the new Strippit PX-series punch press that takes the realisation of what a punch press can do to another level or the introduction of the brand-new Easy-Form® and PPEB high performance press brakes – serious machines that help you solve even the most challenging bending jobs. Or the Dyna-Press, an electric ram driven, super compact press brake for the bending of small parts. Each of our new product introductions are aimed at helping you ‘Take the Lead’ in your sheet metal fabricating.

Also in this issue, you’ll learn about how LVD machinery is helping fabricating shops in Brazil, Germany and the UAE to increase their flexibility and productivity and stay one step ahead of the competition.

Matthew Fowles
Group Marketing Manager

His passion for the business and understanding of his customers’ and employees’ needs are testament to the culture that remains in LVD to this day.
LVD introduces the Strippit PX-Series, a new generation of punch press that is anything but conventional. The Strippit PX-Series combines punching, forming, bending and tapping all in a single machine to efficiently and cost-effectively complete multiple processes, including processing of complex, three-dimensional parts.

ADDING GREATER VALUE

Punch press users have long desired to add value to the punching process by performing more operations on the machine, eliminating secondary operations down the line.

The Strippit PX machine was engineered to provide the most flexibility of any punch press. Designed using the Pullmax single-head concept utilizing Trumpf-style tooling, the Strippit PX offers high-speed punching of up to 505 HPM on 25 mm centers, rolling wheel forming and even tapping. But key to the machine’s flexibility is its capacity to bend flanges up to 75 mm high.
BENDING UP TO 75 MM

The Strippit PX-Series has the versatility to bend parts up to 90 mm in length with bends up to 75 mm high formed into the workpiece. Parts can remain tagged into the sheet or dropped down a 525 x 500 mm programmable work chute and conveyed directly into a parts bin.

For workshops large and small, the high forming capabilities of the Strippit PX opens the door to exploring operational changes that could mean cost savings of thousands of euros depending on the part.

AUTOMATION THAT’S MODULAR

For increased productivity, the Strippit PX- Series offers affordable, modular automation options including the Strippit PA auto load/unload system and the automated material warehousing provided by the CT-P Compact Tower.

Complete Workpiece Processing

The Strippit PX-Series offers the most flexibility of any punch press:

- **Advanced bending capability** to bend flanges up to 75 mm high, 90 mm long
- **High-speed punching** up to 505 HPM on 25 mm centers, up to 1650 SPM marking stroke
- **200 kN configuration**, two models to choose from 1530 or 1225 sizes
- **Workpiece processing** up to 1524 x 3048 mm without repositioning (Strippit PX-1530)
- 20 tool stations accept tools up to 90 mm diameter, up to 200 tools using **indexable Multi-Tools**
- Trumpf-style tooling compatible
- **All-tool 360 degree rotation**
- **Energy Reduction System (ERS)** automatically reduces power consumption in all modes of operation
- **Patented Smart Stroke®** automatically optimizes the ram stroke
- **Smart Clamp™** ensures the smallest possible no-punch zone
- 3 programmable and relocatable **hydraulic work clamps** eliminate clamp dead zones and sheet distortion
- **Bristle table** for high quality part finish
- Powerful **Fanuc PC-based control**
- Modular **automation** options

75mm 360° 24/7
EASY-FORM® AND PPEB PRESS BRAKES

The Latest Powerful Bending Technology in a New Generation Design

Easy-Form® and PPEB Series press brakes sport a modern, new design that takes full advantage of LVD’s powerful bending technology. Aesthetic and ergonomic, the new generation press brakes are more energy efficient, easier to use and incorporate added safety features. Advanced control technology, servo drives and scanning sensors ensure that Easy-Form and PPEB Series machines provide the most reactive, flexible and productive operation.
ERGONOMICALLY ENHANCED

Designed with the operator in mind, Easy-Form and PPEB press brakes are now more functional and user-friendly. An optional LED lighting system illuminates the back gauge and front work zone areas to provide better operator visibility and increased worker safety. Status lighting built into the press brake ram covers offers a visual indication of the machine’s operation status, enabling more effective shop management to achieve higher throughput.

MOST ENERGY EFFICIENT IN CLASS

The on-board LVD Energy Reduction System (ERS) intelligently manages energy consumption to ensure lowest possible energy usage in all modes of operation. Enhanced ERS technology reduces power consumption up to 45% over conventional models, making Easy-Form and PPEB press brakes the most energy efficient in their class.

IN TOUCH WITH THE USER EXPERIENCE

LVD began developing press brake controls more than three decades ago. Years of technological expertise have resulted in the most capable yet operator-friendly machine controllers designed to tap the machine’s full bending technology. The latest generation Easy-Form and PPEB press brakes employ LVD’s most advanced Touch-B control system, a graphical icon-driven touch screen control. The operator interfaces with the press brake using a 19” touch screen flat panel. Working with the Touch-B control is easy and intuitive no matter the operator skill level.

LEADING THE WAY

LVD bending technology is state-of-the-art and field proven with more than 3,000 Easy-Form and over 15,000 PPEB press brakes in use worldwide.
POLES APART
Abu Dhabi based Galva Coat leads the way in pole manufacture for the Gulf, Middle East and Africa region
Galva Coat, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, processes 30,000 tons of steel to manufacture an average of 50,000 to 60,000 galvanized steel lighting poles each year for customers in UAE and GCC (Gulf Co-operation Council) countries. The company uses a range of standard and custom designed LVD equipment to cut and bend poles and high masts in lengths up to 15 m and in thicknesses from 3 mm up to 50 mm. LVD’s sheet and plate metalworking technology meets Galva Coat’s heavy duty requirements and sets the company “poles apart” from its competitors by delivering consistent part quality and keeping rework to an absolute minimum at just 0.5%

Lit by a vision

Galva Coat was established in 1996 by Mr Fathallah Ikhdayer. Mr Ikhdayer began a partnership with LVD early on as he began investing strategically in precision machinery to build a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility.

While competing firms invested in lower-end production tools, Ikhdayer was driven to create a facility with the most advanced technology and highest quality in all of the Middle East, a vision not unlike UAE’s ruling royal families whose continued focus is to make the country into a world-leading center for business excellence.

Building on his vision over the course of 17 years, Mr Ikhdayer has added five press brakes including a custom tandem press brake, two shears, a laser cutting system and CNC turret punch press. Each purchase was targeted to address specialized market requirements.

A strong relationship with LVD’s UAE sales agent Majid Qutteineh and visits to LVD customers in Europe have convinced Mr Ikhdayer that LVD understands Galva Coat’s metal fabrication needs and has a proven track record providing solutions for demanding applications.

“Galva Coat was subcontracting a lot of work and Ikhdayer had a vision to offer a superior product and service by making it himself,” explained Deputy General Manager, Aziz Aziz. “At the time, the pricing of lighting poles was extremely high as there was no manufacturing facility for such a product in the Middle East,” said Mr Aziz. “Mr Ikhdayer looked for the most reliable and accurate equipment that was rugged and durable and came with good technical support. He has developed a technical relationship with LVD that is based on trust.”

Mr Ikhdayer’s confidence in LVD has led to additional equipment purchases. Most recently, Galva Coat has added an Impuls 4030 laser cutting system and a

“We make 50,000-60,000 poles a year with only 0.5% rework.”
Mohammed Botma
Factory Manager, Galva Coat
Strippit V30-1225 punch press, which were purchased to provide capacity to manufacture electrical switching cabinets and trunking used by a Galva Coat division that specializes in civil electrical switching infrastructure. Prior to this machinery purchase, the units were manufactured by subcontractors.

Also part of Galva Coat’s latest wave of investment was the addition of one of the largest custom press brakes ever built by LVD, a 3,000 ton stand alone machine. The custom press brake enables Galva Coat to bend up to 25 mm thick material up to 15 m in length, providing another key competitive differentiator for the company.

Atop the field

Today, Galva Coat is managed by Fathallah’s son, Islam Ikhdayer. The company employs 270 people at its 16,000 m² production facility and produces lighting poles, high masts, transmission masts, hinged poles, and structural steel fabrications, all of which are galvanized to ensure high resistance to corrosion and harsh environments.

Galva Coat is a leading brand in the market, known for its high quality standards. The company boasts roughly 65% of the market share of lighting poles and guard rails for the government, public and private sectors, including road construction and contracting companies exporting to a number of Middle Eastern countries, Africa and India.

Integrated manufacturing

Galva Coat uses LVD equipment in an integrated manner, from offline CAD part programming to shearing, laser cutting, punching and bending operations.

An LVD 1,400 ton, 14 m tandem press brake and a 14 m long semi-automated guillotine shear are used to shear material and form parts.

A 3,000 ton PPEB press brake complements the tandem brake and is used to form posts and pipelines up to 15 m long in thicknesses to 25 mm. Servo controlled with state-of-the-art hydraulics and electronics, the PPEB press brake is the largest machine of its kind in the Middle East - representing the most advanced forming technology available worldwide with a turnkey system including press brake, automation, evacuation and forming tools.

For 90% of the day, the custom press brake is forming lighting poles. A programmable V-axis crowning system integrated and synchronised with the machine’s control system ensures the ram and table are parallel during the bending operation, keeping part accuracy high and rework to a minimum.

“We make about 50,000 to 60,000 poles a year with only 0.5% rework, which shows just how consistent the technology is” said Mohammed Botma, Factory Manager at Galva Coat.

“The 15 m press brake has increased our bending capability to bend steel up to 50 mm thick, which has improved our production capacity and enabled us to produce bigger poles with thicker materials. This in turn has helped us differentiate Galva Coat against the competition” said Mr Aziz.

A heavy-duty Impuls laser cutting system with dual pallet system allows Galva Coat to handle large sheets and process both thin and thick materials in mild steel, aluminium and stainless steel. Dual pallet tables operate independently of the machine and permit two sheets to be fully processed without operator intervention. Loading and unloading operations can be carried out during the cutting process, thus increasing Galva Coat’s productivity.

The laser cutting system achieves high productivity and accuracy by combining...
high axis speeds with optimal cutting conditions over the entire cutting area using a unique constant beam length system.

The constant beam length system of the Impuls eliminates the divergence of the laser beam, ensuring Galva Coat of identical results over the entire cutting area, at optimal speeds, with superior edge quality. The edge function feature facilitates cutting sharp corners, particularly in thicker plate, making it key for Galva Coat’s processing of heavy-duty steels.

“The laser machine enables us to produce fine cut plates with better accuracy and larger quantities,” explained Mr Aziz.

Galva Coat uses its Strippit V30-1525 to punch materials up to 6.4 mm at rates of 1,000 hits per minute for the production of lighting and mast related parts and to handle subcontract work. The 48-station turret provides a unique mix of stations giving Galva Coat flexibility and large capacity for punching and special forming. The machine’s rugged frame design and advanced table positioning ensures high part accuracy of ± 0.1 mm and a repeatability of ± 0.05 mm over the entire table.

“Geting its share

With its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility a reality, Galva Coat’s focus is to satisfy customers with the best price and delivery to continue to grow its market share. As the company continues on its growth path, LVD will be providing the technical support and solutions-oriented counsel for future machinery investments. It’s a partnership that has proven successful.

“The consistent results that the LVD machinery continues to deliver day after day proves that LVD is the right choice for us.”

Islam Ikhdayer, Managing Director
LVD Systems
TRANSFORM
Conveyor Manufacturer AMF-Bruns
A LVD laser system, tandem press brake and CADMAN® 3D software have helped AMF-Bruns transform the way it designs and makes its products.

Based out of Apen in North West Germany with a second site at nearby Friesoythe, the company is a leader in two completely different markets – conveyors and handling plant for bulk products, and specially converted vehicles for people with disabilities.

The 4 kW Impuls laser, with twin 3 x 8 m shuttle tables and 2 x 4 m tandem press brake are mainly used in the conveyor side of the business, where the use of LVD’s offline programming software, CADMAN®, combined with fast setups and right-first-time accuracy have allowed the company to operate a just-in-time one-piece flow system.

The accuracy and quality of the parts produced have also allowed AMF-Bruns to redesign many of its components to move away from welding towards bolted structures.

Change Management Project Leader Sebastian Seger explains: “We are looking at how we can bring lean management and lean principles into the assembly – in the same way that cars are built on a production line, we want our conveyor systems to be built on a production line in the foreseeable future. Everything we do is order-driven so each part is made for a specific work order and a specific place in a final assembly.”

Each production department – material stores, laser cutting, press braking – acts as an internal supplier to the follow-on process, with schedules based on when the part is needed by the internal customer – with no buffer and no work in progress.

Mr Seger’s colleague, Hinrich Böhije, who heads up the sheet and plate processing shop, adds: “On the laser, we don’t work on the basis of filling up the sheet for maximum uptime. We don’t have any work in progress and we don’t make anything for stock. Everything is made on a just-in-time basis.

“My supplier is the purchasing department. They are responsible for making sure I have the materials I need when I need them. My responsibility is to make sure that my customers get their parts when they need them. We have a completely integrated production flow, with every part synchronised in step. And the laser sets the pace for the whole company. If the laser stops, everything stops – so the process stability and reliability of the LVD machine was a decisive factor for us – and we know that if anything does go wrong LVD responds immediately.”
This way of working depends on the ability to process small batches efficiently. On laser cutting it is the offline programming in CADMAN®-L and the twin shuttle tables that give AMF-Bruns the responsiveness and flexibility it needs to make that possible.

“Material management is critical too”, says Mr Seger: “It could be that in the course of a day we put the same material on the laser five separate times. The way we cope with that is to use our CADMAN®-L software to manage part-cut sheets to an extreme level. So our schedules aren’t optimised for cutting efficiency at the order level, but across all our orders.”

“It is a similar story on the press brake,” says Mr Böhlje.

“In theory we could change the tool setup after every single part – in practice you may well set up five different times in a shift to make an identical part.”

“Again, the fact that there is no programming to be done on the machine is a key factor in making this possible.”

“Offline programming with CADMAN®-B gives us maximum machine uptime. We just have to select the program, check everything is alright and then start. And the part will be right the first time thanks to the Easy-Form angle measurement and correction system.”

“There is nothing better on the market,” says Mr Böhlje. “When it comes to press brake technology, LVD really has all the answers. We have optimised the process to a level where the operator on the machine is really only doing what he should be doing – forming the part.

Machine utilisation is now around 80% on both the laser and the press brake. The laser replaced three plasma machines that together had an efficiency of just 30%. It is that increase in efficiency that has made it possible for the company to adopt one-piece flow.

The LVD machines have also given AMF-Bruns the opportunity to revisit all its internal design codes – optimising parts based on laser cutting and design for assembly.

Wherever possible, parts are now bolted together rather than welded, and it is the accuracy of the laser that has made this possible. Thanks to the laser, parts that still need to be welded can be designed so that they slot together to be self-fixturing and the 8 m cutting and forming capacity means parts can be made in one that previously had to be made in sections.
On trough-type augur conveyors, for example, the U-section troughs used to be formed on pyramid rolls. These had a maximum width of 3 m, so an 8 m trough had to be made in three sections that were then welded together. Now they can be formed on the press brake in one piece.

Heat from the welding process used to cause distortion too – so a straightening process has been eliminated as well.

Says Mr Seger, “Across the board, the investment in the LVD machines and software has given us a better quality, reduced setup times and significantly increased productivity.”

“Across the board, the investment in the LVD machines and software has given us a better quality, reduced setup times and significantly increased productivity.”

Sebastian Seger, Project Leader
DYNA-PRESS

Fast, Accurate and Efficient Bending

The Dyna-Press is your perfect bending partner for fast bending of small and simple parts. Easily position it with a forklift, hook up the power and you’re up and running. Your operator, who was previously purely supervising your punch press or laser cutting machine, is now able to add even more value to your operations, as they can now bend parts at the same time.
Dyna-Press uses an electric press drive system to deliver speed, power and efficient operation. High ram and back gauge speeds keep machine productivity high with bending speeds up to 25 mm per second. Three CNC controlled axes (X, Y, R) provide versatility.

Compact and portable, Dyna-Press saves on valuable floor space and can be conveniently relocated using a forklift. Its ergonomic design allows the operator to stand or sit while bending parts. Dyna-Press features a self-leveling tripod base and adjustable height foot pedals.

A graphical icon-driven touch screen control is easy and intuitive to use making Dyna-Press easy to operate for users of varying experience levels.

KEY FEATURES

Cost Efficient Electric Servo-Driven Ram
Dyna-Press press brakes feature an electric servo-driven ram, providing fast approach, bending and return speeds for more efficient bending at a lower cost per unit. Bending speeds up to 25 mm per second are achieved. Dyna-Press provides 12 tons of bending force and handles bend lengths up to 835 mm.

Energy Efficient Design
The electric ram minimizes power consumption through the use of an optimal power to inertia motor ratio.

Touch Screen Control
LVD’s touch screen control is simple to operate and provides synchronized control of the machine allowing positioning of all available axes. The infrared technology is a robust industrial design that is proven reliable.

Compact and Portable
Dyna-Press is compact and portable with a footprint of 1235 x 1092 mm. The machine can be quickly and easily relocated using a standard forklift.

Tooling Styles
Dyna-Press features Universal or US style tooling compatibility via ‘quick release’ tooling adaptors for fast setups.
Australia
Hume Masterpanel Pty Ltd, Bundamba, one of Australia’s largest producers of timber and steel doors, has added a Strippit V20-1525 punch press and two PPEB press brakes to its fabrication equipment. The company is a subsidiary of the Hume Group, which operates factories and warehouses throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Italy
Merlo, part of the Merlo Group, Cuneo, has installed two press brakes, a PPEB-H 1000/81 and an Easy-Form® 400/45 model, for use in the manufacture of its world renowned telescopic handlers, self-loading concrete mixers, and tracked carriers.

Malaysia
Supreme Steelmakers Sdn. Bhd., Kuala Lumpur, has installed their fourth LVD cO2 laser cutting system, a heavy-duty Axel 3015 S Linear 6 kW machine. The company has also recently invested in a PPEC-4 press brake. One of Malaysia’s leading steel service centers, Supreme processes cut to length steel, bar and pipe/tube stock.

Poland
Dynaxo SP. z. o. o. has added a Sirius 3015 4 kW laser cutting system to its manufacturing facility in Wronki. The high-power CO₂ laser provides Dynaxo with the flexibility to manufacture its diverse range of products, including mini-ovens and ceramic cooktops, free-standing cookers, kitchen equipment and refrigerators, and more than 1,000 different products of thin steel-sheet metals, zinc-plated and stainless steel.

China
Giant KONE Elevator, a joint venture of KONE from Finland and Zhejiang Giant Holdings Ltd, has recently installed two new LVD PPEC-5 series press brakes at its Zhejiang Huzhou facility. The new machines will be used in the manufacture of lift car components.

Hungary
Leading agricultural machinery manufacturer Claas has recently installed two Easy-Form 220 ton – 4 m machines at its facility in Claas Hungária Kft, Törökszentmiklós, Hungary. These high specification machines help ensure consistent and high quality bending performance in Claas’s Hungarian operation.

USA
Heiden Inc of Manitowoc, Wisconsin has installed a Pullmax 720 series punch press complete with load/unload and pick-sort automation. The new machine will be utilized provide additional productivity and flexibility to service Heiden’s diverse subcontract customer base.

Belgium
Leading Belgian steel service centre Verhoestraete is adding a new PPEB-H 800 ton – 9.1 m press brake to boost its XXL capability, further enhancing their status as one of Europe’s leading steel services centers.
Claas is a world-renowned manufacturer of agricultural machinery including combine harvesters, tractors, balers, forage harvesters and telescopic handlers.
BENDING WITH PRECISION

Argos Guindastes, manufacturer of high-strength steel booms
The growth of Brazilian truck-mounted loader crane manufacturer Argos Guindastes has been extraordinary by any benchmark. From a standing start in 2003 it has become the volume and technology leader in the Brazilian market. Now it has set up a new manufacturing subsidiary, AGC Mechanical Components, specialising in the manufacture of cut and formed components from Domex high-strength steels.

This will not only serve the company’s own requirements, but also offer a subcontract bending service to other customers of its materials partner SSAB.

Key to this capability is an LVD PPEB-H press brake – a 1,000 ton, 8 m bed press brake – fitted with LVD’s Easy-Form® in-process laser angle measurement and correction system.

The company’s main market is Brazil – which accounts for 99% of production, and it is now starting to sell in other parts of South America, including Colombia, Bolivia, Uruguay and Argentina.

Argos was set up when the owner had the chance to buy the manufacturing rights to a range of truck mounted cranes and saw the potential of the market. Within a couple of years the company had developed its own AGI product line, working in partnership with SSAB to pioneer the use of Domex high strength steels. In just five years from start up Argos was the Brazilian market leader becoming one of the ten largest truck mounted crane manufacturers in the world and now ships around eight units a day.

**Market Leader**

The high-strength steels allowed it to design lighter cranes with a longer reach and greater load capacity – a move that continued with the launch of its AGE range of articulated loader cranes.

As Horacio Bregoli, Technical Director of Argos, explains, Argos deliberately sets out to differentiate itself from the rest of the market.

“We are not just another supplier. We were the first Brazilian company to use high-strength steels and the first to work with SSAB. We were the first company to implement a complete product line with hexagonal booms. We also have a patent for a new redesign of heavy duty vehicle cranes.”

The company has a strong focus on product development, using advanced finite element analysis to develop its designs and rigorously testing them before putting them into production. New designs are put through 100,000 load/unload cycles and load-tested to destruction.

“We are the company that leads technology in the Brazilian market,” says Mr Bregoli.

“We develop our own electronic controls, we use the best materials and we have our own hydraulic cylinder manufacturing company. These are key components, so we want to be in control of the quality.”

The launch of AGC continues this emphasis on in-house capability, but the move to subcontracting capacity is a new venture.

“We are one of SSAB’s partners in Brazil, and they asked us if we could consider processing material for its customers too. We will try to take this part of the market as a subcontractor for laser-cut and precision-formed parts in challenging materials,” says Mr Bregoli.

That strategy was one of the reasons why AGC wanted an 8 m press brake when the longest parts it needs for its own production are just 6 m long.

In fact, LVD’s experience with manufacturing large press brake machines and their knowledge of boom manufacture was one of the reasons why AGC chose it to supply this machine. The key factor was the ability of LVD’s Easy-Form laser angle measurement and compensation system to ensure perfect bends in long components made from high-strength steels.
AGC works in Domex 700 in thicknesses from 4 mm up to 9.5 mm and in Domex 500 up to 12 mm. In the future it expects to be bending Domex 960 in thicknesses from 4 mm up to 8 mm, which will allow it to develop stronger and lighter booms.

The telescopic crane arms can have up to nine fabricated booms nested inside each other, so band accuracy is critical to ensure that the cranes function correctly.

“We had bending problems with our boom configurations, so the angle measurement was critical and one of the main reasons for choosing LVD,” says Mr Bregoli.

“It is very important for us to be able to measure the deflection of the press and compensate for this using the automatic crowning system. And it is very important to be able to compensate for any variation in the yield strength along the length of the part to ensure we get the right dimensions on the boom.

**Zero Defects**

“We want to achieve zero rejects on the booms. One of the main problems we have had here in the past though is that we have had to rework and correct parts to make them usable. With the Easy-Form system we will avoid that reworking process.”

To further improve quality, the machine is fitted with a part extractor system so that AGC can form a complete hexagonal boom in one piece rather than making two profiles that have to be welded together. The extractor slides the formed part out of the tool to the side of the machine.

To ensure short lead times, production at AGC and Argos is based around a component ‘supermarket’ concept.

AGC’s job is to supply cut and formed parts to the supermarket to ensure a certain minimum stock of parts for each crane type. When Argos gets a customer order, the welding department takes the necessary parts from the supermarket and the final production cycle begins.

Manufacturing schedules for AGC are based on historic order levels over the past three to six months and sales forecasts for the coming month and aggregated over a month’s production. If demand varies significantly from the predicted demand there is flexibility to reschedule the manufacture of specific kits of parts within the month.

Horacio Bregoli explains: “We can offer a lead time of 15 to 20 days because we have all the cut and formed parts in the supermarket. That is the time it takes from starting the welding to final despatch – which is very good for our industry. When a customer buys a truck and wants it fitted with a loader crane they want them at the same time. It takes about 15 days for a truck to be delivered, so with this short lead time we can deliver the crane when it is needed.”
LVD Employees are Taking the Lead with LVD Branded Cycling Gear

It’s no secret that we’re passionate about sheet metalworking, but we’re also passionate about cycling, our national sport. When one of our design engineers came up with the idea to introduce a corporate cycling outfit, LVD welcomed the initiative with great enthusiasm. Conceptualized by the design engineer himself, the outfits quickly went into production. The outfits have now been rolled out to employees as they ‘Take the Lead’, not only on the job, but on their racing bikes as well.

Dedicated Sales & Service Subsidiary for India

LVD has established a dedicated sales subsidiary in Bangalore, India.

The formation of LVD Strippit India Pvt Ltd follows the successful joint venture of Magal Engineering and LVD India in 2008 and creates a new company combining the resources of both entities. LVD Strippit India Pvt Ltd capitalizes on the extensive market knowledge of each organization to maximize coverage and ensure strong localized sales and service support for a growing customer base.

Mr Narasinga Rao serves as Managing Director of the new sales subsidiary and will lead LVD’s strategic growth plans for the Indian market, which includes establishment of a Technology, Demonstration and Training Center in Bangalore and an increase in staffing levels to address the metalworking needs of fabricating shops all over India.

Worldwide Production Expansion

Over the latest 18 months LVD has added 5,700 m² of additional production capacity to its worldwide production capacity. These new state of the art facilities enable LVD to maintain a multi-tier comprehensive product range across the core competencies of laser cutting, punching, bending and shearing. Each new facility has been introduced to LVD’s manufacturing capacity following its WCM (World Class Manufacturing) principles to ensure optimal manufacturing process flow and efficiencies. This allows LVD to maintain its competitive edge in a diverse world market place.
TAKE THE LEAD
in fast, flexible fiber laser processing with Electra FL

LVD leads the way to a greater choice in laser processing technology with the fiber laser system, Electra FL. With its high-speed, thin sheet processing, low operating cost and the ability to process a wide range of ferrous and non-ferrous materials, Electra FL will lead you to flexible, efficient, economical processing.

Learn more about the compact, modern design, speed and easy operation of Electra FL by visiting www.lvdgroup.com/electra/en or by calling +32 56 43 05 11.

Take the Lead with LVD