



Tool Management Systems - *proven cost savings at Roush*

GUHRING®

The Tool Company

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Tool Management System Provides Efficiencies, Mfg. Cost Reduction at Roush

Inventory management made easy by Guhring

Managing inventory and reducing costs within the manufacturing environment is the goal of any effective tool management system. The automotive racing specialist and product development company Roush has been working with their local distributor, Bennett Tooling Solutions to implement a tool management system at their manufacturing facility in Livonia, MI. Using Guhring's tool vending machines and tool management software has led to increased efficiencies and reductions in manufacturing costs.

For over 30 years, Roush has provided precision machined parts to the racing industry. Using a wide variety of CNC machining centers, EDM and laser cutting machines, Roush manufactures short run, precision prototype parts using a wide array of tooling. Controlling tooling costs and managing inventory is always a challenge in a job shop environment and Bennett Tooling Solutions has joined with Roush to help improve their tool management systems. Working with Guhring's Tool Management specialists, Bennett Tooling Solutions installed three vending units on the shop floor and implemented a tool

management software package that allows operators to dispense tooling as needed throughout the shop.

Using Guhring's Eco vending machine unit in conjunction with two slave units, Bennett Tooling Solutions was able to decentralize the tooling crib and move the higher consumption items closer

to the manufacturing cells. In addition, using Guhring's Tool Management Software, Bennett Tooling Solutions is able to remotely track consumption and manage inventory electronically. The tool management software provides automatic order processing, continuous reporting on all tool movement data, and reduced storage and administrative costs. Bennett Tooling Solutions replenishes the vending cabinets 2 to 3 times per week using the data from the tool management system. In addition, Guhring installed additional software on 5 external PCs in order to manage inventory from the

desks of the design engineers. This allows the engineers to look at real time tooling data when processing parts, and to choose tooling that is in stock, reducing new tooling lead times. Roush is also able to manage the inventory in the master tool crib itself via the tool management software in their TM Vending system.

Guhring provides custom built and stocked vending machines to suit our customer's needs. The six drawer Eco Unit used at Roush is designed specifically for carbide insert packages while the two



Left to right: Dave Berger, co-owner Bennett Tooling Solutions; Chris Hafner, TM Vending Systems Manager for Guhring; and Mel Koslowski, Manager of Machining Operations at Roush.

Below and lower left: Customization of software and drawer configurations allow Guhring's TM Vending units to meet the exact needs of nearly any installation.



12 drawer slave units dispense a variety of round shank tools such as drills, taps and end mills. The installation and training for the units was one week and it has been a six month process to convert some 3,500 SKUs into the tool management software of which approximately 2,500 SKUs are stored in the vending units.

