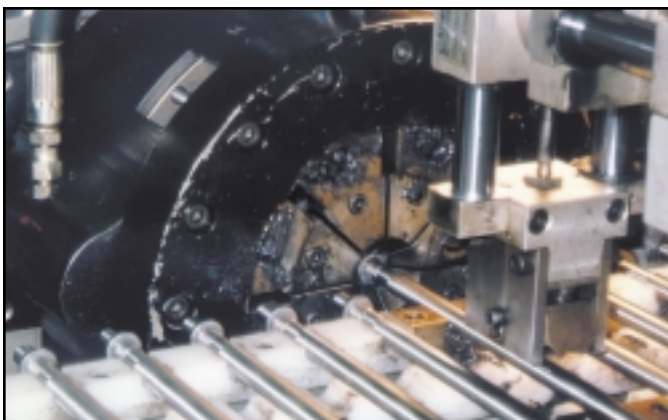


CUSTOMER PROFILE

Finn-Power Crimpers... Little Work Horses at Chambers



M. K. Chambers automated the Finn-Power CC20 crimper with a table. Washers and lead screws are put on the walking beam table. It automatically feeds it into the Finn-Power CC20 for crimping.

The M. K. Chambers Company, North Branch, Michigan, has a long history of excellence in the metalworking and fabricating industry, specializing in custom thread rolling. The company has grown from five employees to 170, and from less than 1,000 square feet to more than 33,000 square feet spread across three buildings, with an additional 30,000-square-foot-building soon to be in operation.

Recently, the engineering department of M.K. Chambers discovered two unique applications for the versatile and flexible CC20 crimper from Finn-Power USA, Inc., and they are working on a third. M.K. Chambers is a supplier of lead screws for automotive seating components. According to Robert Chambers, senior vice president, traditionally the lead screws were fabricated by welding a washer to the end of the screw. "This was very expensive and the fall out was unbelievable because of the weld splatter," explains Chambers. Adds Dale Lawson, process engineer, "And dimensionally, it was a nightmare trying to hold linear dimensions on the part."

They heard of the Finn-Power crimper from a local dealer and sent 15 parts for a test run to Jeff Johnson, Finn-Power USA's general manager. "Two days later we got them back...and they were perfect," beams Lawson. "Bob and I couldn't get on a plane fast enough to visit Finn-Power to find out how the crimper worked."

“ These little machines are almost too good to be true. They're phenomenal machines that save us money and eliminate headaches. ”

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Shortly after that meeting, the Finn-Power CC20 crimper became an essential part of the M.K. Chambers lead screw production line. The process begins by thread rolling the steel in 12-foot bars. It is then blanked into lead screws. It then moves to the finished department. "We've automated the CC20 crimper with a table," explains Lawson. "We put washers and the lead screws on the walking beam table. It automatically feeds it into the Finn-Power CC20 for crimping. We have a Sony gauge man set up inside the die head of the crimper that checks the dimension quality."

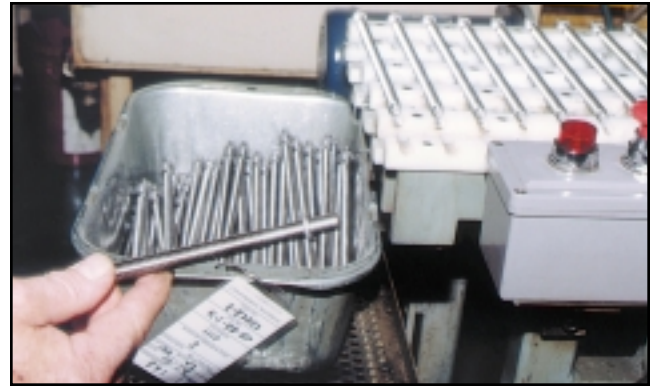
And what has this new crimping process meant to the bottom line? "It has lowered that step of the operation by 77% – which we split 50/50 with our customers," explains Chambers. "We used to out source the welding step of production and we crimp almost 1,200 of these each hour in house. The crimped piece is also stronger than the weld under testing."

The second crimper application, also a CC20, is used for both tube nuts and a smaller lead screw

application. For the tube nut application, M. K. Chambers cuts tubing to size and sends it out for stamping two slots and four holes. The company then builds a threaded insert that is inserted inside the tubing. "We couldn't figure out a way to secure the insert without welding," explains Lawson.

"We tried every type of weld you could imagine to try and hold that nut in. But the side effects were always slag on the thread, splatter inside the threads, or an incomplete weld."

As a result, M.K. Chambers came up with the idea of crimping the nut inside the tube. "We put our insert inside the tube and we crimp the tube to the insert," explains Chambers. "That bites inside the tubing. Our customer requires a 15 lb. minimum, 15 lb. rotational torque. We can hold that all day with no



The Finn-Power CC20 crimper has lowered that step of operation by 77% which M. K. Chambers splits 50/50 with their customers.

problems. And again the savings are very dramatic. We were paying an outside supplier to weld the insert to the tube."

A future application for the Finn-Power crimper will be a knurling operation.

M.K. Chambers runs its Finn-Power crimpers seven days a week, 24 hours a day. "These little machines are almost too good to be true," concludes Lawson. "They're phenomenal machines that save us money and eliminate headaches. "And above that," adds Chambers, "The Finn-Power machines have helped us with all quality and safety issues."



For the tube nut application, M. K. Chambers cuts tubing to size and sends it out for stamping two slots and four holes. The company then builds a threaded insert that is inserted and crimped inside the tubing with the Finn-Power CC20 crimper.

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FINN-POWER
Crimping since 1973

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