



BOZ Group B.V. - Expert in complex sheet metal processing

Increasing order volumes and shortening lead times

The Dutch BOZ Group has been specialising in sheet metal processing for 42 years. Its focus on engineering, sheet metal machining, powder coating, assembling of stainless steel, steel and aluminium sheets and plates, as well as the construction of machine elements makes the BOZ Group a top notch one-stop supplier. To ensure constant growth the BOZ Group uses state-of-the-art process optimisation and automation tools and the software solutions HiCAD, HELiOS and WiCAM.

CAD, CAM, PDM and ERP interfaces from one supplier

Last year, the BOZ Group was still using software systems from various suppliers (AutoCAD, Tops etc.) The main problem was that these systems were unable or barely able to communicate with each other. As a result, many data needed to be entered manually. This procedure is not only expensive and time-consuming, but also prone to errors. Therefore, the BOZ Group decided to look for new software from a smaller total number of system suppliers, with the aim of improving the communication between the systems. "At this point we had already heard many positive things about the ISD as a supplier of complete solutions, and the competence of their staff. A benchmarking proved that the ISD could indeed offer

the best possible solution. With HiCAD, HELiOS and WiCAM we have now a CAD, PDM and CAM system from one supplier", says Corné van Oordorp, General Manager of the BOZ Group and President of the Dutch sheet metal processing industry GPI. The six HiCAD workstations that are equipped with the Sheet Metal professional module are used for the construction of new products at the BOZ Group. Furthermore, HiCAD is used for the import and export of customer data and the generation or modification of drawings for further programming. All laser cutting machines and the storage system are automatically operated and controlled via the modular system of WiCAM. HELiOS is used for the management of the existing data and for the mapping of the entire process chain from designing to data transmission. With the help of the ERP interface to Epicor, bills of materials can be transferred automatically and with a bidirectional article transfer. All documents are assigned to one, central project, which enables both the technical and the commercial departments to work consistently with the same CAD and ERP data via one system.

» IN BRIEF

BOZ Group B.V.

- Industry: Sheet metal processing
- Software: HiCAD, HELiOS, WiCAM
- Headquarters: Bergen op Zoom, NL
- www.bozgroup.nl

SUCCESS STORIES



Corné van Oordorp, General Manager of the BOZ Group, relies on the products and services of the ISD.

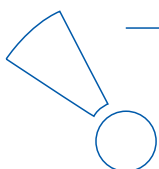
Faster process planning with WiCAM

The BOZ Group uses WiCAM for an automatic control of the bending, cutting, laser-cutting and punching machines. The utilisation of a manufacturer-independent CAM solution leads to a significant reduction of manual processes and an optimised nesting. “In the past, we had to use different programs for nestings performed by different machines. Now we can use WiCAM to perform a ‘machine-neutral’ nesting that can then be assigned to a suitable and currently available machine. In this way we can switch quickly between machines and always use their full capacity. Before we acquired WiCAM, process planning and the creation of the nestings was time-consuming. Now we can save considerable amounts of time and money”, says van Oordorp. The main advantage of this one-stop solution consists in its ability to deliver top quality products very rapidly. “With our equipment we are optimally prepared for further growth. We have recently bought

many new machines, and the flexibility of the new software enabled us to integrate these machines into our production environment very quickly, thus generating high returns of investment.

HELIOS as a basis for paperless manufacturing

After introducing the first automations in the production process it became apparent that further adjustments would be necessary to achieve a reduction of lead times. The goal consisted in an entirely paperless, company-wide order processing, which required further investments into digitalisation and automation. With HELIOS the BOZ Group possesses a PDM solution that enables a further refinement of rationalized production and lean manufacturing processes. One of its advantages resides in the fact that all departments of the company will always access one central source of data. Errors caused by manual processes are eliminated and it is ensured that the staff will always



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use the most recent, valid article version. “We have cabinets full of drawings for articles that we produced a long time ago. In fact, we keep and store almost everything, even revised customer drawings. This enables us to deliver very quickly in case of a sudden reorder. Using HELiOS as a PDM system we are striving for an entirely paperless order processing and time savings of about 50%. We are currently in the process of digitalising our legacy data and making them available in HELiOS. As soon as we are finished with this, I am sure that we will achieve our goals. Even now, can already record time savings of about 30%“, reports van Opendorp enthusiastically.

Success through automation and process optimisation

In the last years, the BOZ Group has gradually optimised its production process, partly through intelligent procedures, partly through the use of state-of-the-art technologies. The Dutch company based in Bergen op Zoom was the first company that laser welding robots for contract welding works. All investments and technical enhancements were made with the aim to reduce lead times. “As we can perform all production steps in-house, we can optimise our production process further by eliminating all unnecessary waiting times. We have applied the principle of lean manufacturing to our workflows and procedures and have now achieved an optimal working method”, explains van Opendorp.

Double-digit growth of order volumes

The BOZ Group enjoys constant growth, which is not least due to its consistent investments in modern technologies and production methods. Van Opendorp concludes: “We recently recorded an increase of processed orders per day and employee by about 25%. This is the growth we are striving for. With the

ISD we have found a highly competent partner that will take up any challenge together with us, and helps us constantly optimize our processes. I am sure that this cooperation will be creating synergies for both of us for many years.“

» A strong partner for your success:
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