



Electrical Enclosure Company Gets an "Outside the Box" Lifting Solution

Industry: Power & Electric

Product: Electrical Enclosures

The Problem: It took two men to pick up product and rotate it

> The Solution: A Gorbel G-Force[®] Intelligent Lifting Device



There Has Been a 5 to 6 Percent Increase In Productivity in 8 Months

At a Midwestern manufacturer's main fabrication site's off the shelf material handling solution wasn't leaving them feeling too satisfied.

The application in question was the installation of steel panel doors onto their larger enclosures which measure more than 7 feet tall and can be over 3 feet wide. The doors could weigh as much as 200 pounds. They needed to be lifted off pallets and rotated so they could be attached at hinges on the enclosure.

After becoming frustrated with the amount of handling required to install the doors, the company explored some alternatives. What they found was a custom solution from Gorbel that delivered flexibility, maneuverability, and a productivity boost.

The system is comprised of a freestanding monorail system that features two parallel runways supporting a platform-mounted articulating jib crane with 360-degree rotation and 7-foot reach. At the end of the jib is a torque arm with a Gorbel G- Force® Q and a vacuum end tool that allows for a 90-degree tilt and 360-degree rotation.

The end tooling, controlled using Gorbel's Soft Touch handles, allows one operator to pick up the door, tilt it and rotate it to the vertical position needed for the installation. The operator then can install the door, engage Float Mode on the G-Force®'s handle, and carefully align the hinge on the door with the hinge on the enclosure.



"We're very happy with the Gorbel system," said the Operations Manager. "Over the course of two shifts, this lifting happens probably 150 times. Streamlining it has been great. We've been able to take the second person off of this job and move them to another job in the factory. Even with one less person, we've seen about a 5 or 6 percent increase in productivity in the 8 months we've been using the Gorbel products."

"Some of the employees were skeptical of the new system, which is to be expected when you make such a big change to the process. Now they want another one. We've got a similar application in another area of our factory, and we'd like to duplicate this solution there."