

Applications for Plasma Cutting Technology

Industry: Metal Service Center
Equipment: HySpeed® Plasma HSD130



MAX200® to HSD130 retrofit dramatically increases profitability for metal service center

- The HSD130 retrofit was a very cost effective solution.
- Virtually dross-free cutting eliminates the need for secondary operations.
- The HSD130 consumables last five times longer than with the MAX200.



The company and products

Massari Officine Meccaniche is a metal service center located in northern Italy. For 40 years, Massari has cut, bent, and welded mild steel, stainless steel and aluminum. Customers come to the company from a wide variety of industries: agriculture, construction, manufacturing and petrochemical. They have two cutting tables, one fitted with an oxyfuel torch only. The second table is equipped with two torches; one plasma torch and the other oxyfuel. Massari employs 13 people, who work one shift a day, five days a week.

The problem

Massari wanted to expand their cutting capacity range and improve their cut quality. Thicknesses below 6 – 8 mm were outsourced to a company with a laser machine because they were not satisfied with the performance of the MAX200 for thin plate. The company wanted to bring some of that work back on-site. For thicknesses 8 mm and above, Massari wanted to make significant improvements to the cut quality. They were continually experiencing issues with cut quality; for example, secondary operations were required to remove dross, holes had irregular circumferences, and cut angles on 15 mm thick plate were beyond any acceptable range. They also felt the consumable life needed to be extended because Massari was replacing their electrodes and nozzles every 100 starts.

The solution

Massari did not think it was necessary to invest in a new cutting machine. They wanted to upgrade their plasma power supply and torch instead. The company had purchased a MAX200 in 2001, and the system had performed well for them. When their OEM recommended a HySpeed Plasma HSD130 retrofit, Massari was very interested in staying with Hypertherm's plasma technology. The OEM easily installed the HSD130 retrofit and Massari was quickly back in production. On mild steel, the HSD130 provides virtually dross-free cutting which improved their overall cut quality concerns. It also has cost-reducing LongLife® technology for dramatically longer consumable life, resulting in lower operating costs.

The benefits

Cut quality has improved overall which is a significant advantage for Massari. Dross has been virtually eliminated, removing the need for secondary operations. The quality of their holes has improved, being able to produce holes with more consistent circumference with the HSD130. On plate thicknesses in the 15 mm range, they can visually see the improvements in angularity.

The HSD130 performs to their satisfaction on jobs that the MAX200 could not. Massari was able to bring 20% of their outsourced work back in-house, eliminating the cost associated with laser. Their ideal goal is to bring even more in-house, contributing further to their profitability.

Massari is also reporting a substantial savings in consumable costs, due to the LongLife technology embedded in the HSD130. Massari's consumables now last five times longer, significantly reducing operating cost and downtime.

The HSD130 gave Massari what they wanted. Their range of cutting capabilities has expanded, cut quality has improved, and operating costs have significantly decreased. All of this has resulted in greater profitability for the company. Mr. Roberto Arrighi said: "The HSD130 is such a versatile system! I was satisfied with the MAX200 but I could not imagine all the improvements I would have benefitted with this newer technology. I can say the HSD130 exceeded my expectations!"

Hypertherm®

Hypertherm, Inc.
Hanover, NH 03755 USA
603-643-3441 Tel

Hypertherm Europe B.V.
4704 SE Roosendaal, Nederland
31 165 596907 Tel

**Hypertherm (Shanghai)
Trading Co., Ltd.**
PR China 200052
86-21 5258 3330 /1 Tel

Hypertherm (S) Pte Ltd.
Singapore 349567
65 6 841 2489 Tel

**Hypertherm (India) Thermal
Cutting Pvt. Ltd.**
Chennai, Tamil Nadu
91 0 44 2834 5361 Tel

Hypertherm Brasil Ltda.
Guarulhos, SP - Brasil
55 11 2409 2636 Tel

Hypertherm México, S.A. de C.V.
México, D.F.
52 55 5681 8109 Tel

www.hypertherm.com

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