

Applications for Fiber Laser Cutting Technology

Industry: Manufacturing

Equipment: HyIntensity™ Fiber Laser HFL015



Made-in-Canada: Fiber Laser cutting

- Complete fiber laser cutting solution.
- Quick entry into the laser cutting market.
- Expanded precision and manufacturing productivity.

The company and products

EBF, a Victoriaville, QC, manufacturer of motion-controlled industrial cutting tables, is using a fiber laser cutting machine it built to make part of its own tables, and plans to sell its fiber laser cutting machines in the Canadian market. With the exception of the fully integrated fiber laser system (supplied by Hypertherm), the entire machine is built in Canada.

The problem

EBF wanted to get into the laser market quickly as well as built a laser cutting system to support their own manufacturing needs. Alex Gaudet estimates that approximately 40 percent of the components that go into the manufacture of EBF's industrial cutting tables could be cut on a fiber laser cutting machine. Alex wanted to test the technology first in-house before beginning to sell it in the Canadian market.

The solution

Hypertherm's HyIntensity Fiber Laser systems. Hypertherm spent years testing the fiber laser cutting process, developing and validating cut charts and operating parameters so OEMs and system integrators would not have to spend that same time perfecting cut results. The cut charts are incorporated into the same controller EBF has used for years with their plasma machines. It's an add-on button on the CNC controller for the fiber laser cutting machine. So the cut charts are loaded into the CNC controller

and the customer simply inputs the material type and thickness and the modules are electronically linked and will then set up cutting parameters without operator intervention.

The benefits

The complete cutting solution offered by Hypertherm enabled EBF to not only quickly and successfully enter the laser cutting market in a much shorter time than any other path, but also added significant benefit to their own manufacturing processes. Gaudet says he had considered another supplier two years ago, but the supplier sold only the fiber laser supply. "If we had taken that route we would have had to buy different components of the fiber laser cutting technology from various other suppliers. With Hypertherm, it is a complete fiber laser technology package."

Gaudet has high expectations for EBF's expansion into the fiber laser cutting market. In part, he says the company's reputation for building high quality, high technology machines will help drive growth. Many of EBF's customers currently use CO₂ laser cutting and have already shown an interest in fiber laser cutting.



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