

Minster Remanufacturing the Solution for Simpson Strong Tie

At the Simpson Strong-Tie Company stamping facility in McKinney, Texas, Maintenance Manager Ron Earl was faced with the challenge of providing equipment to diversify the product line and increase production.

But instead of shopping for a new press, Ron discovered his best solution was having The Minster Machine Company remanufacture one of the company's existing presses.

SIMPSON

Strong-Tie CONNECTORS

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Ron Earl
Maintenance Manager

"We had a (Minster) P2 and felt if we tightened up the clearances and changed the stroke length we could run some other products," Ron said. "Yet it was the fast delivery that was the justification for us to have the press rebuilt.



The offices and manufacturing facility at the Simpson Strong-Tie Company in McKinney, Texas.

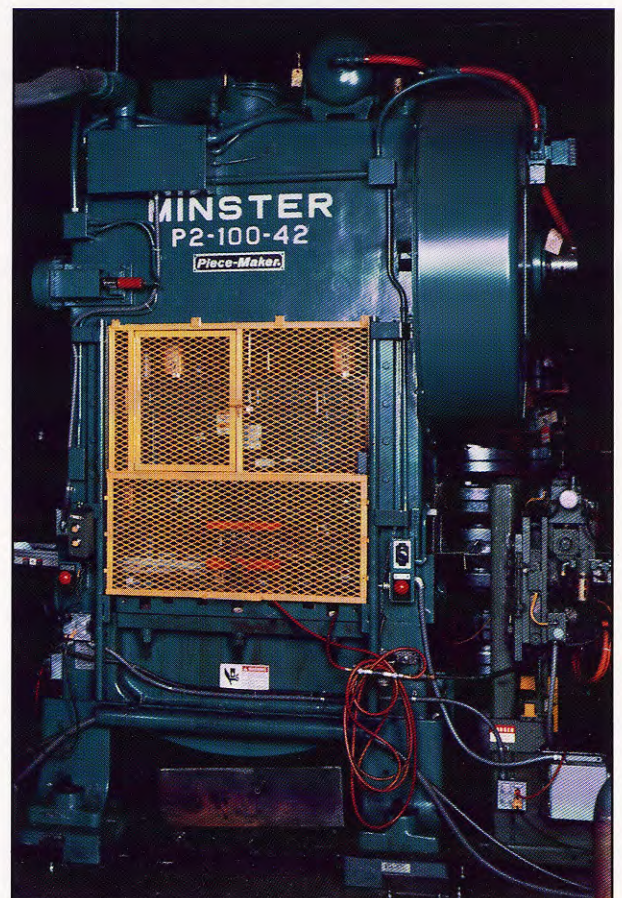
The people at Minster said they could get it done and get it done faster. We couldn't buy a new one in the time we could get a remanufactured press through the Minster shop...couldn't even come close to it."

And Ron was not unhappy with the results.

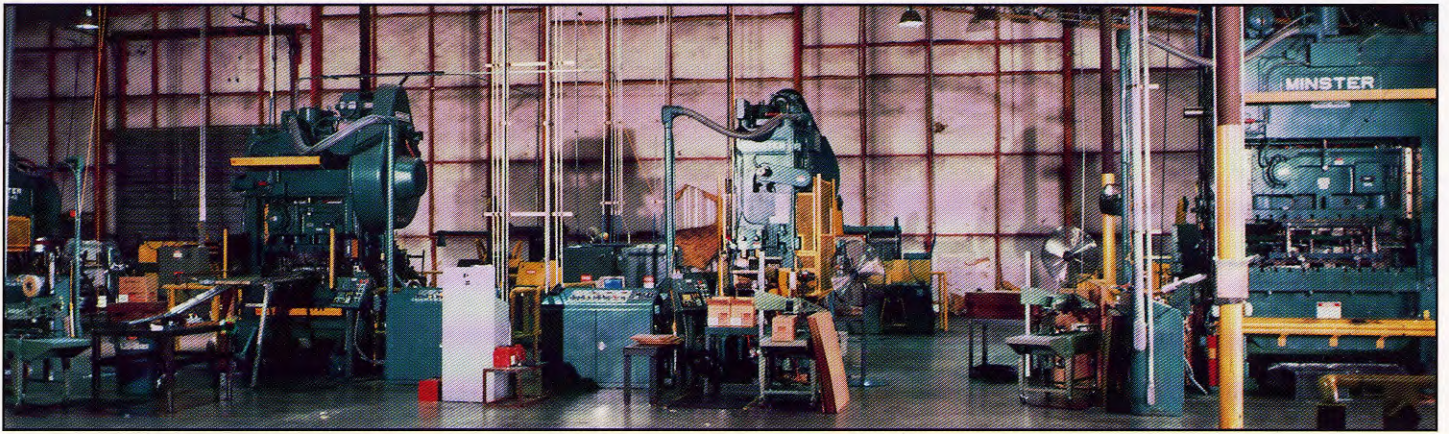
"When it came back, the guys who do a lot of work on the presses wanted to rename it," Ron said. "They said it's not the same press. In fact, the only way you could tell it was the same press was the serial number and the sound of the clutch. The people at Minster did a very good job on it."

With a large assembly bay dedicated to remanufacturing, The Minster Machine Company provides complete remanufacturing services for all its products. Delivery, economics, reliability and performance are all important reasons to

remanufacture. And whether it's upgrading technology, safety standards or production capabilities, Minster works closely with each customer to determine the desired specifications for each remanufacturing job.



This Minster P2-100 was remanufactured to the specifications of the Simpson Strong-Tie Company.



A variety of Minster Presses are utilized by the Simpson Strong-Tie Company in McKinney, Texas.

"The people at Minster worked with me on exactly what I wanted done," Ron said. "They asked all the right questions, interrogating me on what the press was doing now and what it was going to be doing when it came out of rebuild. Minster got all the information up front and did a good job of understanding our needs."

Ron said another factor in selecting Minster to remanufacture the press was experience.

"I'm a firm believer in having the people who originally built the press remanufacture it, if possible," he said. "That way I get the proper prints, the right engineering and the proper controls. Minster has the people on board to get the job done right."

Founded in 1914, the Simpson Strong-Tie Company began manufacturing structural connectors in 1956. Since then, the company has grown to be the world's leader in wood to wood, wood to concrete and wood to masonry connectors. With four manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and several in Europe, Simpson has adopted the geometry symbol for "no equal" as its trade mark, because so many design professionals believe that when it comes to structural connectors, Simpson cannot be matched by others.

There are numerous Minster presses operating at Simpson's McKinney facility, and Ron said

the big reason for that is the personalized service his company gets from Minster.

"The Minster presses give us very good life. You turn 'em on and they work and work and work. That's a given," he said. "What's made the biggest difference is the people in the organization."

"My first experience to the whole Minster group was probably when I called the Parts Department," Earl continued. "I remember one winter you guys at Minster were froze up. You had just had a big snow fall. I called up there and said, 'I have a 1960's model press that's down.' The guy from Minster said, 'I'll tell you what, UPS isn't coming today, but I think they're going to be at a hub somewhere, and if I can get this part to someone in a four-wheel drive we can get it to that hub and have it shipped out.'

"That made a big impact on me," Ron added. "Here was a press that was over 30 years-old and not only did Minster have a part in stock, but they were willing to do whatever it took to get it out to me. With Minster, it was really a people issue, it

wasn't the equipment. Sure, it's in here running its heart away, but it was the people that seemed to be leaning into the harness to take care of a little speck on the map in Texas that made the difference."

Ron said it's hard to compare Minster to other press manufacturers when you can pick up the phone and get parts, history, engineering or service. And as far as the presses themselves, he said uptime stands out.

"We've got less than one percent corrective maintenance on the Minster presses, which is if the press goes down for either a planned repair or a failure," he said. "Over seven years, we've had less than one percent downtime. That speaks for itself."



Some of the many connectors the Simpson Strong-Tie Company produces on Minster Presses.