



## Stepping Into The Future

In the world of manufacturing today one thing is painfully obvious. There aren't enough qualified people to hire at a salary level that allows for profit margins to be maintained in a competitive environment. Or, is there another way to approach the problem. Get more out of the people that you already employ.

One of the country's largest and most prestigious manufacturers of ACM panels was in this very predicament. Although they are situated in a large metropolitan area, Nashville, TN, John W. McDougall was faced with just such a problem. They were growing and expanding in multiple markets, but just couldn't find enough qualified and experienced people.

Then they discovered automation. Their panel department employed 3 horizontal panel routers, a half dozen bending tables and 12 people to keep up with demand for architectural ACM and MCM panels. With guidance from a Joseph Machine Company industrial engineer, they were able to modify their existing work cell down to 2 CNC Panel routers by introducing one Casadei Industria ALU Ranger 6321 V-Groove machine with ALU Loader automatic loading system, 2 Casadei Industria ALU Benders and 2 Casadei Industria ALU Folders to fold the returns on their panels. These additions reduce floor space by over 50%, reduce employees required to 7 and increase capacity by 200%.

As they became more accustomed to the new equipment, they started to realize that the vertical orientation of the ALU Ranger table meant less bending over for the operator so he was more rested and made fewer mistakes. The ALU Benders and ALU Folders meant no repetitive squeezing of hand tools that required employees to be rotated out of the work cell to prevent injury. The full-length continuous bends meant faster processing and a better quality bend. The extra floor space made it possible to add more new equipment in another department.

Better quality, higher production, a reduction in work related injuries, and enough extra floor space to expand another department and add more capacity to that department. All from one conversation with a professional from Joseph Machine Company and Casadei Industria ProCompositeTech.