



## 4 Advantages *with* Manufacturing Solution “From BAR to BOX”

Following an expansion a Job shop in the ‘Queen City’ of Ohio – Nolte Precision – was looking for equipment that would help them with their business growth and process improvement. They came upon a solution that gave them what they call “from Bar to Box” efficiency with the following advantages:



1. Streamline multiple operations on several machines
2. Get faster lead time and exceptional turnarounds
3. Reduce Inventories
4. Promote productivity with operator friendly equipment



Based in Cincinnati, Ohio, Nolte Precise Manufacturing is a family owned contract-manufacturing business that was founded in 1916 by Louis G. Nolte, a screw machine operator at Cincinnati Milling Machine. The company now includes the fourth generation of this machining-passionate family, performing contract manufacturing services for nearly a century. Nolte supplies precision machined and assembled components to original equipment manufacturers, providing a total supply chain solution, using CNC lathe, CNC mill, CNC Swiss, automatic screw machine, and assembly processes.

### **Challenge:**

Throughout its history, Nolte has been on the leading edge of innovation, striving to incorporate the most efficient business practices and utilizing the latest technology and equipment. Following a facility expansion to accommodate continued business growth and process improvements, Nolte needed to procure a new machine that would offer enhanced milling capability. Serving customers in markets such as aerospace, hydraulics, automotive, defense, marine, and construction, Nolte needed technology that would optimize the efficiency of their metal working processes. The company wanted to invest in a machine that would provide exceptional equipment cycle time, reliability, and service capability, from both the manufacturer and distributor.

## **Solution:**

At the Precision Machining Technology Show (PMTS), Nolte owners, Bob and Doug Coster discovered the Eurotech Turn/Mill Center exhibited by Florida-based, Eurotech Elite. Compared with the many machines they studied at the show, they were impressed by the cycle time and features of the Eurotech, as well as its bar capacity and compact design. Ultimately the Eurotech was selected to be Nolte's new technological addition because it offered independent turrets, live tooling, and more than three inches of bar capacity. "Nolte Precise has always been at the forefront of technology; the Eurotech Elite Quattro series that Nolte selected is a turn/mill center that we offer to our customers who are looking to complete parts in one operation; it also gives the added benefits of eliminating handling, fixturing, inspection, wasted time and floor space." –Jeff Walz, Eurotech Owner

## **Results:**

The addition of the Eurotech machine led to a substantial increase in efficiency. The actual cycle time was exactly as quoted and 20 percent faster than the capability of Nolte's existing six-axis equipment. In the months following the initial purchase, the shop acquired another Eurotech Turn/Mill Center in a different configuration. The machine features a Y axis on the upper turret for a total of seven axes, providing even more flexibility to develop complete parts.

The multi-tasking capability of the Eurotech machines has increased productivity at Nolte. Many parts used to involve multiple operations on several machines. The Eurotech technology has streamlined these processes. As Bob Coster explains, "We simply put the bar in one end of the machine and a part comes out in the box." These machines allow Nolte to serve customers with fast lead times and exceptional turnarounds. Inventories have been reduced, as well.



"Now, we may run a job in 1 to 3 days at the most, where it used to take 6 weeks," Bob reports. "The idea of 'from bar to box' is a major inventory savings because of the setup time." (Bob Coster)

Another advantage of the Eurotech machines was the operator-friendly design, which enabled the Nolte team to have them up and running on the day of installation. Doug Coster reports that the machines have promoted productivity in the shop because their employees are eager to work with them.

"The labor market for skilled machinists is challenging. However, the Eurotech Elite machines are user friendly and we've had success in training employees to operate the equipment at a high level. The employees enjoy working with them." -Doug Coster, President

Nolte reports that in addition to the efficiency and productivity benefits the Eurotech machines have provided, the manufacturer and distributor support they have received has also made the machines a great investment. For more information on Nolte Precise Manufacturing, Cincinnati OH, P (513) 923.3100 | F (513) 741.5404 | [www.nolteprecise.com](http://www.nolteprecise.com) | For more information on Eurotech, visit [www.eurotechelite.com](http://www.eurotechelite.com) or call 352-799-5223.