

Reed Manufacturing Co.

The ivy covered walls of this 100-year old family business are in stark contrast to the latest CNC production methods contained within. Specializing in the manufacturing of large pipe-cutting tools, Reed Manufacturing purchased their Full Bore® Chuck in November of 1991. The new FB11-31 installed along with a magazine bar feeder demonstrates how dramatic production increases can be achieved.

Here are the facts:

- Cutter wheels up to the full spindle bore of 3.15" are manufactured with this setup. The elimination of the draw-tube allowed the purchase of a standard bore machine rather than a large bore machine.....saving thousands of dollars.
- Higher spindle speed of 3,500 rpm was maintained (2,800 rpm was highest speed of the larger bore machine).
- Remnant size was reduced from 8" to 2" resulting in a major reduction of scrap expenses.
- New CNC with the Full Bore® Chuck replaced two screw machines.
- Changeover time between jobs was reduced from several hours to less than 15 minutes.
- Part cycle time was reduced from 7-1/2 minutes to less than 2-1/2 minutes.
- Actual chuck cycle time is less than 2 seconds.
- Production time reductions resulted in a 50% decrease in required inventory, yet Reed still maintains their standard 24-hour shipping capability.
- This setup uses standard off-the-shelf and readily available tooling.

Reed Manufacturing's Plant Engineer confirms "The chuck has been working perfectly since it was installed. I am especially impressed with the availability of on-site installation and great product support from Production Dynamics (now Lexair, Inc.)."
