

CASE STUDY

C.R. Onsrud



Company profile:

C.R. Onsrud, Inc.
Troutman, North Carolina
160 employees
CNC tooling manufacturer

Challenges:

Vendor with long lead time
High rework rate
High mix, low volume

Bluco modular solution:

9 Modular welding tables
2 Floor rail systems
Modular component kit

“Our guys feel like they’re working with a big Lego set when they build a Bluco fixture. So the learning curve? I would say there is no learning curve. It’s like the biggest playground in the world. We love it.”

- ERIC McALLISTER, FABRICATION MANAGER

They were stuck on someone else’s time line ...

Tom Onsrud, CEO and owner of C.R. Onsrud and Eric McAllister, his Fabrication Manager, were getting tired of waiting. Their standard practice had always been to have the frames for their seventy CNC machine models welded by an outside shop, but that process had them waiting up to 12 weeks for initial delivery. And that was a best case scenario. If the part didn’t pass QC once it got back to McAllister’s shop, it would have to be shipped back and they’d have to wait another month. He knew that the lost time was also costing

A MATTER OF TIME ... AND MONEY

them money. “When a salesman says ‘I can get a half-million dollar order for a machine if we can deliver it in x number of weeks.’ Well, then we had to get in line with the outside vendor, where a good delivery was 6 weeks,” says Onsrud. Tom Onsrud knew exactly what the heart of the problem was, and he knew how to fix it. “They were a good shop, but nobody cares about your stuff the way you care about it,” says Onsrud. It was that simple. They’d have to bring the process in house. And to Onsrud, there was only one possible way to do that: Bluco modular fixturing.

(Continued)