MIST COLLECTORS CLEAN SHOP AIR

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Every shop owner or manager knows the importance of a clean shop environment, and mist collectors are a key part to maintaining this. Removing oil mist from the air improves shop air quality and reduces accident risk, fire risk and overall shop cleaning costs. As Ziese Products discovered, the right mist collector can also make a substantial impact on coolant costs, part quality and the bottom line.

A precision CNC shop serving the energy industry, Ziese Products of Park Hill, Oklahoma prides itself in staying ahead of the technology curve. Owner Sean Ziese has run the shop with his father since 1992, and has maintained their competitive edge by implementing new equipment and processes to improve productivity and profitability.

Mr. Ziese contacted Vega Tool Corporation, the exclusive North American distributor for Amano Mist Collectors, regarding the issues he was having with his filtration style mist collectors from another manufacturer. “We run production jobs, and having to stop the machines to change out filters was cutting into our bottom line” states Mr. Ziese. “Additionally, our previous mist collectors were still leaving a thick oil mist in the air, and I didn’t want my team to have to work in that kind of environment.”

For Ziese Products’ applications, Vega Tool recommended the Amano MJ Series Filterless Mist Collector. “We offer Amano’s complete range of filtration style and filterless mist collectors,” states Scott Fernandez, President of Vega Tool Corporation, “but Amano’s MJ Series is truly the next generation of mist collectors. Since there are no filters to be replaced, it was ideally suited for Ziese Products’ needs.”

The Amano MJ Series Mist Collector features a compact design that can be mounted on top of a machine tool or on a stand next to the machine. The internal cyclone spins at high speed, and the

powerful fan sucks the air and mist from the machine. The coolant is returned to the coolant tank via a drain port, and the warm air is exhausted through the top of the unit.

In March 2011, Ziese installed their first Amano Mist Collector to reduce machine downtime and improve the air quality in their shop. Mr. Ziese noted an immediate improvement as soon as the machine's doors were opened to change out parts. "There was substantially less oil mist in the air, and the air temperature inside the machine was also lower than our machines outfitted with other mist collectors" states Mr. Ziese.

The Amano MJ Series that Ziese Products installed features a 99.9% collection efficiency of 2.0µm particles. In addition to improving the air quality in the shop, the MJ Series Mist Collectors have provided an 8% savings in their total coolant costs over Ziese Products' previous mist collectors.

Ziese now has the Amano MJ Series Mist Collectors installed on sixteen of their machines and the cost savings has started to add up. The prior mist collector manufacturer recommended replacing their $125 filters twice a year, and Ziese was not typically able to get six months of life out of the filters. "Even replacing them at the manufacturer recommended intervals, across my sixteen machines I was spending $4,000 a year in filters" states Mr. Ziese.

One additional benefit of the MJ Series that Mr. Ziese was not expecting was the removal of heat from the work envelope. The powerful cyclone has a collection capacity of up to 300 cubic feet per minute, which removes the hot air from the machine and exhausts it out the top of the mist collector. "The Amano Mist Collectors keep a lower operating temperature in our machines, which has helped us to keep tighter tolerances and make better parts more consistently," states Mr. Ziese.

Ziese Products runs their machines for multiple shifts per day, and the Amano Mist collectors are built for this sort continuous production environment. The case features a unibody outer shell, which

eliminates any chance of coolant leakage from the mist collector's housing. All MJ Series Mist Collectors use NEMA compliant motors that provide both high efficiency and high power.

Eliminating the need for filter replacement has reduced machine downtime and provided a cleaner shop environment at Ziese Products. Although the MJ Series Filterless Mist Collector is a small component in the machining process, the filter costs savings, reduced coolant costs and work envelope heat removal has made a big difference in Ziese Products' operations.

For more information from Vega Tool Corporation, go to www.vega-tool.com or telephone 800.228.2969.

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