



AMANA TOOL[®] ROUTER BITS FILL HARBOR INDUSTRIES' NEED FOR HIGH-QUALITY PERFORMANCE

Company Overview

Based in Grand Haven, Michigan, family owned Harbor Industries, Inc. has been designing, manufacturing and delivering custom point-of-purchase displays and store fixtures for more than 60 years and was among the first in the industry to design and develop interactive digital displays. Its state-of-the-art facilities produce displays and fixtures for some of the most influential names in the consumer goods and retailing industries. To ensure the highest level of quality products, Harbor Industries is an ISO 9001:2000 registered manufacturer and certifies all suppliers for ISO

its commitment to delivering the highest quality products on time and within budget. To meet customer needs and requirements, Harbor Industries' production facility in Charlevoix, Michigan, includes a mill and an assembly department capable of rapidly reacting to any changes in customer demand. Its mill operation, which handles all wood components used for creating store fixtures, is capable of processing 750,000 board feet of wood per month.

With such high demand and production volume, it is crucial for Harbor Industries to work on a tight schedule in order to

"In keeping with our mission to be environmentally friendly, we knew we needed a collection of tools that not only helped us become more proficient but would help us reduce the amount of waste we were producing," stated Tom Jodway, mill lead at Harbor Industries.

compliance. Harbor Industries' commitment to high quality and community involvement has led to the establishment of a "Green Team" dedicated to environmental conservation through sustainable business practices.

Challenge

Harbor Industries has maintained lasting relationships with its customers, some dating back almost 40 years, as a result of

provide customers with top-quality finished goods with a quick turnaround.

In keeping with a demanding schedule, Harbor Industries sought out woodcutting tools that could increase production efficiency without compromising quality and cost. Key criteria included reliable, durable router bits that would remain sharp after multiple uses while still producing high-quality, clean cuts each time.



Amana Tool[®]
REDEFINING WOODWORKING™

CASE STUDY



HARBOR INDUSTRIES USES A NUMBER OF AMANA'S ROUTER BITS DURING THE MANUFACTURER PROCESS

The Amana Tool Solution

After a thorough search and evaluation process of numerous tool companies, Harbor Industries selected Amana Tool for its router bit needs. Amana Tool specializes in solid carbide, replacement carbide and carbide-tipped industrial-quality woodworking tools, including CNC tooling, saw blades, router bits, shaper cutters and boring bits, among others. Harbor Industries saw value in Amana Tool's high-quality products and affordable pricing and now uses a variety of its router bits in the mill for cutting wood, MDF and particle board, particularly on CNC equipment.

According to Jodway, Harbor Industries uses a number of Amana Tool's router bits during the manufacturing process, including ones specifically used for creating miter folds, signmaking and lettering. These bits include a replaceable carbide knife that allows two uses of each insert by simply rotating the knife when a new blade is required. One such tool in use at Harbor Industries is Amana's insert CNC 91° V-groove/miter fold router bit RC-1028. The company also uses an insert CNC adjustable chamfer router bit, Amana Tool's RC-2370, for producing chamfer cuts at various angles in softwood and hardwood, as well as production plunge router bits for machining.

Results

Since using Amana's high-grade solid carbide bits in its manufacturing process, Harbor has seen the increased level of speed and quality of cuts and finishes. The reliability of the tools makes maintaining machine schedules and daily layouts easier and enables the plant to quickly adjust to changes in customer demand.

Harbor Industries has saved valuable resources using Amana Tool's router bits. Its V-groove bit features knives that can be rotated or replaced when one side becomes dull, thus prolonging the life of the tool and minimizing setup time. The RC-2370 bit aggressively cuts through dense materials, including solid wood, MDF and plywood. It's design results in a faster feed rate with accurate cutting and a quality finish. Also, different carbide grade knives are available for cutting different materials.



"With each and every Amana bit, we know exactly the cut we're going to get each time we machine a part," stated Jodway. "This reliability results in making labor times easy to calculate and consistently achieve."

"The superior performance of Amana's tools has been consistent and we are more comfortable knowing that the bits we use in our manufacturing process allow us to continue providing superior end results for our customers." Added Jodway, *"The level of quality combined with reasonable prices make Amana Tool the best choice for Harbor Industries."*

At-A-Glance

- ▶ **Background:** Harbor Industries needed woodcutting tools that could increase production efficiency without compromising the quality of its custom point-of-purchase displays and store fixtures.
- ▶ **Solution:** The company selected Amana Tool to provide them with a variety of router bits for cutting wood, MDF and particle board.
- ▶ **Results:** Harbor Industries has seen increased speed and quality of cuts and finishes as well as more easily calculated and achieved labor times.