

## Customer Profile

A major automotive manufacturer needs flexibility to run a large mix of products while keeping changeover time to a minimum.

### Application

- Metal Stamping

### Industry

- Automotive Manufacturing

### Key Benefits

- 18 presses up and running with VLC
- Network data connectivity to MIS system
- Significant cost savings per press

### Mission-Critical Capability

- Reduced changeover time from 45 to 10 minutes

**“Entivity VLC provides the common language needed to bridge the gap between the plant floor and the computer room.”**



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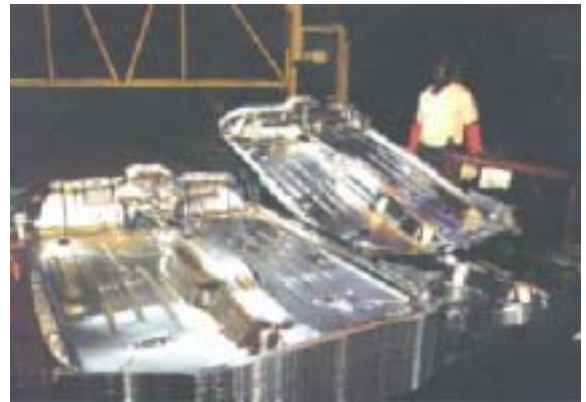
# Major Automotive Manufacturer Achieves One-Button Changeover

This automotive manufacturer faced the challenge of low volume, short run, high mix products. During die changes, which have a significant impact on throughput, parameter entry took 45 minutes. In this case, the solution was to implement a control solution with data connectivity for automatic setup. Implementing this direct download system reduced changeover from 45 to 10 minutes, increasing throughput by 40% and increasing maximum efficiency to 86%. Control system costs at each line were also reduced from \$600,000 using PLCs to \$100,000 using Entivity Visual Logic Controller™ (VLC®).

## One-Button Changeover

In this “one-button changeover” solution, press dies are put in place and connected serially to the control system. ID numbers are passed up to the minicomputer and matched to the correct configuration. Data is sent down over the network to the control system, which is automatically configured for the next part run. This task would have been incredibly expensive using PLCs and ladder logic.

To meet its goals, the information systems group stores all of the part set-up data on a minicomputer and manages the plant-wide network while the controls engineering group designs and implements the press controls. VLC provides the common language needed to bridge the gap between the plant floor and the computer room.



Entivity VLC provides one-button changeover by passing die information to a plant-wide system and receiving configuration data in return.

## Open System Savings

VLC – an “open system” – allowed the team the flexibility to mix and match components, resulting in significant cost savings per press. After one year, 18 presses are running with VLC.