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As a leading manufacturer of premium quality lawn and garden tractors, Simplicity Manufacturing, Inc., uses a lot of steel. So when they needed a new coil handling system to increase their processing capability, they installed a 12” wide Cooper Weymouth Petersen (CWP) coil handling system with the ability to handle material up to .250” thick.

“Reduced changeover time and the ability to run partial coils were paramount to our equipment selection process,” says John Wolfe, fabrication supervisor at Simplicity. “The CWP system we eventually selected provides both of these benefits.”

The coil handling system uses CWP’s Model SMX12H Servomax feed, providing full-width capacity through gear-driven, four-inch diameter feed rolls. The feed was equipped with an automated, powered passline adjustment function to speed up passline adjustments when changing tooling over. To further increase changeover speed, pushbutton clamping/unclamping of the feed unit to the press was also included.

At Wolfe’s request, a CWP Model 4RD double-stock reel was added to provide an easier method of partial coil changeover. At 8,000-lb capacity per spindle, the reel is equipped with hydraulic expansion, inching drive and hold-down arms with powered rider rolls to maintain control of the thicker materials. Each function is independently operated for each spindle.

The system also features a pneumatically raised and lowered threading table to enhance the threading function. Crane Production Systems of Waukesha further automated the system by integrating the feed control with a new press control and die protection system.

“We are very pleased with the new system,” Wolfe says. “The increased production capacity has exceeded our expectations and we are moving unplanned jobs over to the new system based on production time savings alone.”

For further information contact CWP at 1-800-247-2645. Visit www.cwpcoil.com

