

PROBLEM SOLVER

3D DESIGN THATS SAVES TIME. . .

FESTO

Problem: A tier one supplier to one of the major car manufacturers in the UK is working on Just in Time lean manufacturing with them. This means that production downtime needs to be kept at the absolute minimum in order to keep the supply chain going.

After working with ERIKS on their critical spares there are a number of pneumatic cylinders identified. Although the cylinders are held in stock, the time to replace these and then set them up correctly could mean lengthy downtime. The need to swap the cylinder mountings, rod end, sensors, and fittings plus setup the cushioning added to the downtime when one of these failed.

Automotive



Ref: P5113

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Solution: This time was greatly reduced by using some software from Festo called the Festo Design Tool 3D. This software is a CAD type environment that allows the complete build of a cylinder, to add all the required accessories, in their correct positions all on the software platform. This can then be ordered from Festo as a complete pre-built unit. Now, during the breakdown the cylinder is a straight one out one in exchange.

The customer also took the opportunity at this point to change to the Festo PPS self-adjusting cushioning. This innovative solution adapts the cushioning to varying loads and speeds automatically. This saves time by not having to set up the cylinder after replacement, along with the unit being pre-built keeps the downtime to an absolute minimum.

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