Solutions

Issue 66

EMP TECHNICAL GROUP

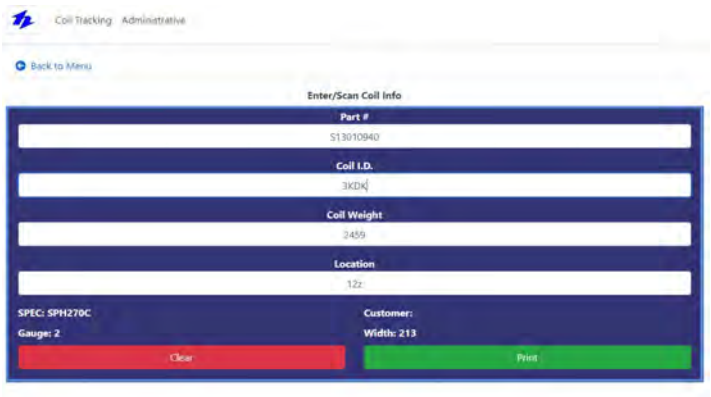
Steel Tracking Solution

Challenge: Automate receiving and location tracking of large steel coils.

Solution: Custom application to store coil information (serial number, weight, location, etc...) as it is received.

Story: Many automotive components are manufactured out of steel. Often, this steel arrives to a facility in a large coil where it is then cut and stamped into a specific automotive part. One of these stamping facilities was having a hard time keeping track of these large coils throughout their facility.

The current process involved receiving the large, steel coils, weighing the coils, assigning them a location in the plant, and handwriting all this information on a tag. Unfortunately, this method led to many mistakes, misplaced coils, and incorrect weights. The customer wanted to automate this process so they could have a database of each steel coil received instead of a wall of paper tags. They reached out to their longtime partner of automation, EMP Technical Group.



After assessing the situation, EMP knew right away that this would require a custom program to store all the information. The solution that EMP provided involved an ultra-rugged Zebra handheld barcode scanner that scans the initial tag's barcode to obtain any information available. Any missing data is manually entered in the program on a PC. Next the coil is weighed and verified against the weight given by the vendor. Any discrepancies are taken up with the vendor. Once the information is scanned/entered in, a tag is printed, and the data is entered into an online database. This database is used throughout the plant to locate each steel coil. It has saved the company a significant amount of time searching for each coil.

Are you looking to automate your process today? Reach out to the team at EMP Technical Group!