

CASE STUDY: **AG Machining**

Interview with **Jamie Gelwick, Safety Manager**

Situation

AG Machining supplies complex assemblies to companies in the aerospace, medical device, pharmaceutical, technology, and industrial controls industries. Their precision machining, sub-assembly fabrication, powder coating, and production engineering operations have a high potential to introduce safety hazards.

“We were aware that our home-grown program was probably not covering all the bases it needed to. We needed knowledgeable experts to help us fill in the gaps, and then support us moving forward by keeping our program up-to-date with the ever-changing regulations.”

Challenge

AG Machining is a family-owned company where management wears several hats. They had created a safety program in-house, however they were concerned that they were not implementing adequate precautions to protect employees and satisfy OSHA and EPA requirements.

“Hellman & Associates’ consultants are knowledgeable about both EPA and OSHA requirements as they relate to our manufacturing facility. I still have a hard time keeping up, so I am thankful to have their consultants to assist me and keep us on track.”

Solution

In 2005, AG Machining hired Hellman & Associates (H&A) to perform a Compliance Action Assessment and signed up for the AssuredCompliance™ program. To begin with, H&A wrote/revised the health and safety manuals to apply to site- and job-specific hazards as well as regulatory requirements. H&A then developed training materials and implemented a compliance calendar to keep all training and tasks current. In response to a specific OSHA inspection, H&A implemented a safety program for press brakes that complied with OSHA’s directive. H&A also developed a lockout-tagout program and specific procedures for more than 80 equipment types.

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Results

For more than a dozen years, H&A has been providing outsourced safety management under the AssuredCompliance annual contract agreement. Examples of H&A's ongoing services include:

- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) management
- Monthly facility safety walkthrough
- New-hire orientation training
- Monthly fire extinguisher inspections
- Job-specific safety training, e.g., forklift, lockout-tagout
- Monthly crane/hoist inspections
- Industrial hygiene monitoring, e.g., noise exposure, welding exhaust
- Annual chemical reporting

“Since 2005, Hellman & Associates has greatly improved our safety record and our compliance. They have put effective programs in place to satisfy all of our regulatory requirements and represented us in several OSHA inspections. I wish we would have called them sooner!”