

CASE STUDY

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BNSF Logistics EPLT PMO Relocates Manufacturing Facility with Complex Machinery Haul and Install

Company Profile

A manufacturer of high quality compression molded stock shapes of specialty high-performance engineering thermoplastics.

Business Challenge

The customer needed to relocate its manufacturing line and warehouse to accommodate its substantial growth. The project required precise coordination of design planning, labor, equipment, and oversight to ensure that raw materials, heavy machinery, and finished products were packaged, dismantled, securely transported, then expertly reassembled. The customer's primary goal was to minimize factory downtime.

Solution

This multi-faceted Engineering, Procurement, Logistics, and Transportation [EPLT] project required BNSF Logistics' expertise in not only supply chain and logistics but also application of our deep understanding of the engineering and procurement requirements essential for successful completion. A three-phased design and execution approach was developed that would allow for production to resume as equipment was put in place at the end of each phase.

Process/Procedure

Phase I involved the load out of raw materials from racks, stacks, and band inventory to rigging and transporting heavy machines, blasting booths, large rings and a dust collector system, then unload and re-assembly according to the customer's layout requirements.

Relocating the Macrodyne Press was conducted in Phase II. This process involved the lay down and assembly of steel plates and a set of gantries around the existing pit in order to lift the 200,000 pound press and place on jack stands for transport to the SPMT trailer. Re-installation of the heavy machinery at the new facility followed. The final step involved equipment orientation, calibration, and load testing to confirm operational accuracy.

Make ready of the old building per the original building's leasing contract came in Phase III. BNSF Logistics provided the supervision, labor and equipment required to repair drywall, replace ceiling tiles, and perform other cosmetic fixes. Concrete was poured to fill the vacated hydraulic press pit, and the surrounding area received additional patching.

Benefits Achieved

- All three phases for this building transition were completed on schedule.
- The new facility is three times larger and allows the customer to accommodate increased manufacturing requirements realized after the significant expansion of their business.
- Customer was able to continue manufacturing throughout the move with minimal downtime.

