

# OPTIMIZING HEAT TREATING WITH AGVs

OPO 004



**This facility is the first site where this manufacturing giant has handled the heat-treating process in-house.**

**A** tier one supplier to the Automotive industry located in Utica, MI, is one of the world's largest manufacturers of automotive, commercial, industrial, and specialty fasteners.

After deciding to bring their heat treating process in-house, the company employed AGVs for the process of delivering containers to each end of the process.

Manual fork trucks deliver any of three types of containers filled with fasteners from the manufacturing area to an on-the-floor buffer storage area, just ahead of the heat-treating furnace lines. That's where AGVs step in.

Three laser-guided AGVs retrieve containers of fasteners from the buffer storage location and transport them to a feed point for the four furnaces.

The AGVs then deliver the empty containers to a washing station, finally carrying the cleaned containers to the end of the furnaces to wait for the parts that have been treated. In order to ensure that untreated parts do not mix with treated parts of uniform shape and size, the vehicles take the empty bins to the end of the furnace line and place the bin in a staging area other than the line that the bin originally dumped to. Heat-treated fasteners are then redeposited into the containers prior to shipment.

Labor savings, minimization of product damage and manufacturing process control for just-in-time delivery were the deciding factors for choosing Automated Guided Vehicles.

For more information, visit [www.agvp.com](http://www.agvp.com)

SYSTEM BRIEF

**PRODUCT:**  
*Heat-Treated Automotive Fasteners*

**VEHICLES:**  
*(3) Outrigger Fork*

**LOAD CAPACITY:**  
*4,000 Lbs.*

**SPECIAL FEATURES:**  
*Laser Guidance  
Laser Bumpers  
Heat Resistant Construction  
24 / 7 Operation*

## AGV BENEFITS

- *Labor Savings*
- *Elimination of Waste*
- *Inventory Control*
- *Just-In-Time Delivery*
- *Increased Safety*

**AGV** PRODUCTS

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