

CODEME: Breaking New Ground in Brazil



Alberto Woods Sores Neto, Daltan Paulo Simoes Utsch and Ademar De Carvalho B. Filho of Codeme Engenharia S.A.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CUSTOMER NAME: Codeme

INDUSTRY: Steel Fabrication for Industrial Building

LOCATION: Belo Horizonte, Brazil

CHALLENGE: Codeme's need to increase productivity and decision to automate processes

SOLUTION: Installed the BDL-1250/9D drill line and PeddiWriter CNC layout marking machine

RESULTS: Codeme's production increased from 140 pieces per day to 180 per day with their drill line and they process 100 to 120 pieces per shift on the PeddiWriter.

Established in 1980, Codeme has developed a reputation for being the largest structural steel fabricator in Brazil. Capable of processing an incredible 4,500 tons of steel per month, annual production comes to an impressive 54,000 tons per year from their several factories throughout Brazil. With work ranging from commercial buildings such as shopping centers and apartment complexes to heavy industrial applications, Codeme has pioneered many facets of the structural steel industry within Brazil.

Four Students with New Ideas

Codeme was originally founded by four students; Ademar de Carvalho Barbosa Filho, Luis Tomé de Rezende, Ricardo Araújo Lanna and Roberval José Pimenta in Belo Horizonte. These four students got their big break when it came to the fabrication of a simple gas station canopy. Previously, gas station canopies were welded onsite, taking weeks to install. By introducing the concept of bolted connections, the team at Codeme reduced the amount of time to install the canopy to as little as two days, and mitigated the dangers of welding structural steel in the vicinity of fuel resources.

Not only did these first canopies boast faster installations and safer working environments, but also proved to stand the test of time with their new robust design. Shortly after the initial installation of the



The PeddiWriter reduces layout error eliminating costly rework associated with manual processes.



The all new BDL-1250/9D at Codeme is able to process upwards of 180 beams in single shift of hours.



The Anglemaster is a workhorse of productivity at Codeme.

innovative bolted design, others in the area took notice of the design and came to Codeme for help. This was the spark that started Codeme. Today, Codeme fabricates massive distribution centers, commercial structures and impressive industrial complexes throughout Latin America.

Pioneering Productivity in Brazil

As Codeme's business grew, the need to increase productivity became apparent. The decision to automate was a critical one that can be credited with much of the growth Codeme has experienced. The initial investment in Peddinghaus machinery in 1996 helped Codeme take their business to the next level. A second investment in Peddinghaus machinery in 2006 furnished an entirely new facility just outside of Belo Horizonte as the firm expanded. Today, Codeme continues to invest in Peddinghaus. Their latest acquisition includes a PeddiWriter CNC layout marking machine, and BDL-1250/9D heavy duty carbide drill line installed in late 2013.

Production Director Dalton Utsch describes the impact of the all new BDL-1250/9D drill line, "We needed to increase our production of drilled profiles, and we chose to purchase the BDL-1250/9D drill line. When we purchased the new machine, we saw our production increase from 140 profiles per day to 180 profiles per day. The performance of the equipment has been fantastic thus far. This faster production means lower cost for us."

Dalton continues to describe the advancements in productivity when it came to the PeddiWriter CNC layout marking machine, "Just like many other places, we have always had a problem hiring skilled fitters for the layout of welded connections. This machine does the work of these fitters. Even when you are able to locate and hire fitters, no matter how good your people are they make mistakes. That is human nature. Unfortunately, mistakes during the layout process means very expensive rework to sections. This undoing and redoing of work can get very costly, and the PeddiWriter prevents this. On top of increasing accuracy, the machine has been very productive. We can process 100 to 120 pieces per shift on the PeddiWriter with confidence. This machine has allowed us to reduce the number of fitters we needed by about 20% - this means that we don't have to struggle to find this skilled labor that isn't available right now."

Peddinghaus and Codeme - Partners for Growth

Peddinghaus' first experience with Codeme in 1996 laid the groundwork for a longstanding relationship. Ademar de Carvalho Barbosa Filho,



Peddinghaus Corp Bradley, IL

President of Codeme states, “When we first purchased Peddinghaus, the most important thing was that they were honest about the machinery. The machines did what we were told they would do. The machines are built very robust, and in fact our original machines from 1996 are still in operation today. What makes the biggest difference with Peddinghaus is their people, and that with Peddinghaus what is spoken is honored. With Peddinghaus we know that what we agree is honored and we don’t need contracts. We are very satisfied with our relationship with Peddinghaus.”

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To learn more about Peddinghaus Corporation visit:
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