

## Novitool® Aero® 325 Splice Press Saves Downtime Costs for Medical Supply Operation

## **PROBLEM**

A major medical supplier on the West Coast of the United States was struggling with the downtime associated with splicing the 45mm wide power transmission belts that drive their three live roller conveyors. The system they were using was taking approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes to splice each belt. Additionally, they were looking for an alternative to their current process of cutting fingers during splice preparation. They were using a utility knife, which was proving to be unsafe, inaccurate, and time-consuming.

## SOLUTION

The maintenance manager was discussing his issues with an employee at another distribution center, and was encouraged to try the combination of the Novitool® Pun M™ NDX Mobile Finger Punch and Aero® 325 Splice Press. When a local distributor and Flexco representative came out to demonstrate both tools, the maintenance manager said he had never seen a belt punched and spliced so quickly and easily, and also commented on the quality of the resulting splice. He was impressed by the accuracy and safer operation of the Pun M, as well as the speed and consistent splices of the Aero 325. He also felt that with the easy-to-use interfaces, the equipment could be used by more maintenance personnel, without having to designate specific crews to complete splices.

## **RESULT**

Using the tools, the operation's maintenance team took one full hour off their splice time. With the maintenance manager estimating their cost of downtime at \$30,000 per hour, each splice now saves \$30,000 in downtime. Add to that the fact that the maintenance manager can count on different members of the team to complete the job because of how easy the tools are to use, and they not only have a savings that affects their bottom line, but also an easier time training their workforce. Additionally, the time savings allows the team to focus on preventative maintenance, which identifies and splices belts before they fail and cause issues on the line. It's no wonder they have several additional tools on order for the rest of their facilities.



