Tools of the trade…know when to hold ‘em. Know where to place ‘em.

A machine builder turns to Creform Corporation to help optimize its tool handling during production

Greer, SC—An industrial automation machine builder was looking for ways to organize and keep track of tools that were used during the building process. They looked to Creform and its engineers to design and build an application-specific tool cart to support operation.

The design (pictured) that was developed provides the optimal size, configuration and tool placement as well as assembly parts and supplies. Further, the modular design allows the manufacturer to add only the accessories needed to save space.

The cart, built with design input from both the manufacturer and Creform, helps promote efficiency and reinforces tool accountability. Another way of saying, a place for everything and everything in its place. The open design promotes easy visual inventory as there are no enclosed drawers or cabinets.

The cart’s framework is built with 28mm high visibility “yellow” plastic coated steel pipe with black joints. It features an angled top level shelf that holds shadow-board for tool storage and an integrated laptop holder on a pivoting shelf which can be positioned for easy access. A lower horizontal shelf is used for bulk storage while a pull-out drawer above the shelf can be used for storage of tools and supplies. The top drawer serves as a small, yet ideal work surface to temporarily hold in process parts or assemblies.

Above and to the left side of the cart are small shelves for miscellaneous production supplies including hardware items. The shelf positions are easily height adjustable based on the stature of the associate and shelves are easily added or reduced. A recessed half-inch plastic shelf surface ensures anything placed on the shelf stays -more-
Tools of the trade...2/ with photo and caption

Embedded photo is for reference only. Hi-res photo is attached as separate file.

in place during the vibration commonly associated with transport.

The cart has four large diameter casters with 4 in. wheels—two that swivel and two that lock for easy rolling, positioning and maneuverability. Overall dimensions of the cart pictured are 40” L x 30” W x 54” H and has a 400 lb. load capacity. The dimensions are custom configurable with the Creform system. A wide variety of pipe color options are available and the cart comes as parts, kit or assembly.

Optional accessories include hooks to hang parts, clipboard and label holders, larger diameter casters for rugged floor or environment, ESD version for static sensitive areas and 42mm pipe/joints for heavy-duty usage.

The Creform System is used to create an array of material handling and efficiency enhancing devices and is a proven component in continuous improvement and Lean Manufacturing programs. The company partners with customers in developing and implementing these programs.

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Online at creform.com for additional information regarding Creform Corporation and its products.

CRE-573 Caption: Creform assembly tool cart