Haas Automation looked to a Yellow Jacket 87” Semi-Automatic Orbital Stretch Wrapper, to improve internal shipping operations and compete with lower labor costs of foreign manufacturers. With the Yellow Jacket 87-SA, the machine tool builder was able to realize a quick return on investment through lowered labor costs and requirements, less damage to parts and more efficient internal shipping operations. Since its founding in 1983, Haas Automation has grown to become an international company. Although the company distributes its products worldwide, all of its machine tools are manufactured in the United States, many in the company’s 1,000,000 square foot Oxnard, CA location. Efficient internal packaging and shipping is critical for Haas to live up to its mission of “perfection” in machine tool manufacturing.

Slow hand wrapping eats valuable time and money
Before the Yellow Jacket 87-SA, the company had plastic wrapped many of its pallets by hand—a method that was highly inefficient. “We were plastic wrapping the parts by hand. It was a very slow process, very labor-intensive and an old-fashioned method of doing it,” says Joe McKenna, machine shop manager at Haas. Hand wrapping also did not provide high quality packaging because of the inconsistency of the tension used to wrap the products. Products wrapped too loosely could move during shipping, causing damage.

Increasing productivity while reducing damage
Because of these problems, Haas looked to find a more efficient, automated packaging method and they found the Yellow Jacket 87-SA. The Yellow Jacket orbital stretch wrapper allows one person to wrap a pallet in about a minute. A forklift operator can place a pallet in the center of the machine. A horizontally positioned stretch wrap dispenser then moves around and under both the product and pallet, securely wrapping even large and odd shaped products directly to the pallet.

The Yellow Jacket 87-SA has helped Haas Automation save time and money, both in labor costs and costs for damaged products. “We calculated that the Yellow Jacket saves us the work of half a person, or a yearly savings of $20,000. This machine is a great return on investment, easily paying for itself within 2 years,” McKenna explains. The Yellow Jacket 87-SA is also able to provide consistent tension when wrapping pallets, which better secures products by holding them firmly on the pallet and preventing damage from movement during transportation. “Our labor savings is just the minimum. There is also improved quality. We are protecting our parts in a better fashion,” states McKenna.

Learn how the Yellow Jacket 87-SA might improve your operations. Call 800-387-5001 or send us an e-mail (email: info@yellowjacket110.com).