For companies that make repairs on an as-needed basis, problems seem to be noticed only when equipment breaks down. This was the situation at a Midwest stamping plant when they initially contacted us for crane service. At the plant, their 12 process-duty stamping cranes ran constantly, and every day at least one of the cranes required emergency repairs. Every hour of downtime cost the plant between $250-300,000 in lost productivity.

Given Konecranes’ focus on deep inspections and preventive maintenance, we stood out as the best company to assist the stamping plant in reducing repair costs and enhancing the life of their equipment.

First, we upgraded their drives, radios and pendant systems. The smooth speed control of the Dynahoist® inverters provided a softer, slower start to minimize wear on internal components. The new inverters were designed to extend the life of the hoist with Shock Load Control, which prevents the operator from accelerating from a slacked to loaded state too quickly. All repairs and upgrades were made during off-peak hours, which allowed the plant to keep up with the busy production schedule.

Our next step was to create a customized preventive maintenance plan which reduced the need for expensive emergency repairs by identifying potential problems before they occurred.

Rather than having to deal with breakdowns on a daily basis, the plant now experiences about one breakdown per month. We provide monthly, annual and semi-annual inspections for the plant and provide an on-site manager who schedules and coordinates all OSHA inspections. With Konecranes taking care of the cranes, the plant is now able to focus on their core competency.