



CHECKLIST TO IDENTIFY

THE BEST PROGRESSIVE

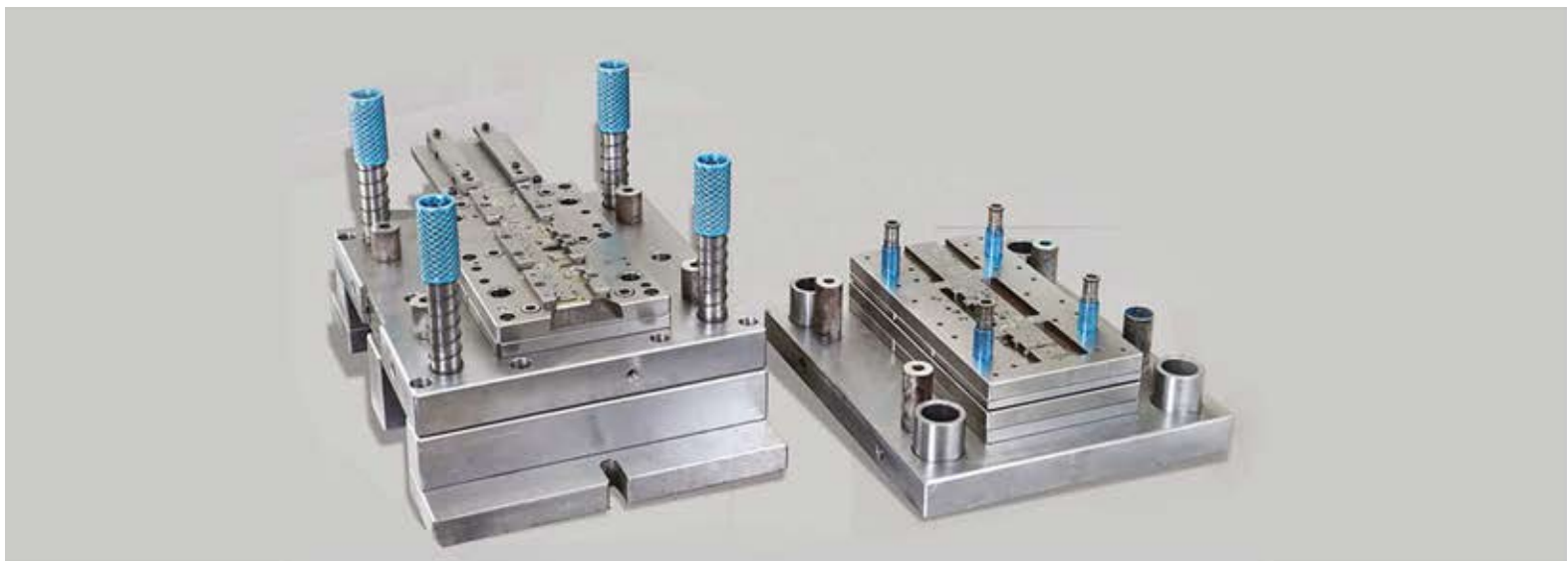
TOOL MANUFACTURER FOR

YOUR INDUSTRY

Progressive tooling players design and build almost all kinds of tools and dies required to develop products used for everyday life. There is a wide range of progressive tool components available in the market to help industries in manufacturing new products. Few years ago when a part had to be manufactured, there was a requirement for development of as many number of tools as the number of operations involved, which resulted in increase in time, work and cost. However, with the revolution in the industrial sector there has been a tremendous change in the way products are manufactured. They no longer have to go through that meticulous process but can easily be manufactured with the help of progressive tool machines. But what exactly is this progressive tool

What exactly is progressive tool?

Progressive tooling is the principal and most versatile method used for metal stamping wherein the metal strips are converted to metal parts in the same machine station. This process is done automatically which involves multiple stages and procedures. Each die station is assigned to perform certain tasks like blanking, punching, bending, coining and so on, which helps in converting the metal strip to a metal part, sequentially. Basically, how progressive tool works is -the metal strip is associated with a feeder, which then moves the strip in a progressive manner from one station to another station, till all the operations are completed, resulting in the final product. During the process, the part or the product goes through a lot of transformation and the most important is that all stations are located adjacent to each other within the same tool. The advantage of using progressive tool is that it helps in manufacturing most simple to more complex parts in large volumes within the best possible production time.



1. Experience in Progressive tool:

In this modern era, experience plays a vital role in remaining competitive in the business. There is so much of competition out there that a progressive tool company must have excellent skills along with experience for their business to thrive and survive. So it is necessary that you visit the company personally and find out more information on their experience in this field, check details on when the company was started and for how many years they have been in this field. This will give you an idea on their capabilities because experience of a company speaks volumes.

2. Quality Assurance:

Checking if the company is ISO certified is one of the first and foremost things to examine in a progressive tool company. The benefit of doing this is that you will have confidence in the company that they deliver only high quality service. It will give you a clear picture on the company's image on how they prioritize customer satisfaction as their prime goal and because of ISO certification it will give you the assurance that you will have fewer complaints for the final product.

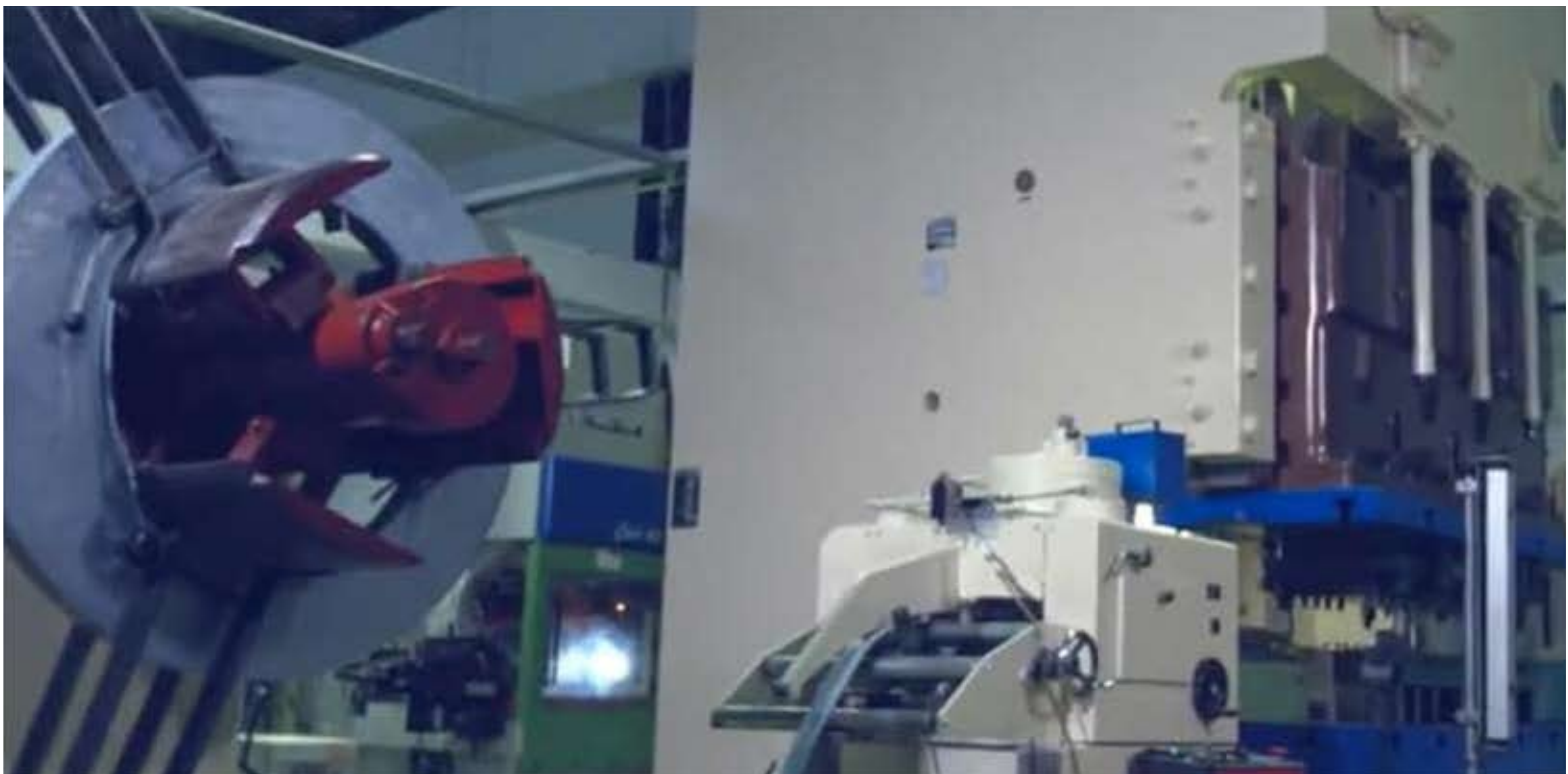


3. Knowledge in the field of Progressive tool:

A progressive tool company should have the potential to create the exact tool as you need. They have to meet the needs of your industry and propose certain designs which will fit in your project. Like for example, they should be able to suggest the size, design and thickness of a part that you want for your project. The way a manufacturer explains features of the part and how their machines will help in developing the part, will tell you how much knowledge they have in progressive tool and die manufacturing.

4. Technology used in the company:

Along with knowledge and skill, it is of utmost importance to check the technology that is being used by the company. Examine if they are using the latest and the best technology which will work efficiently to achieve targets. Find out if they are continually striving to improve their performance by enhancing the production lines. It is critical that the company is up to date with its machinery because only then, they will be able to work efficiently and be ultra-careful of the quality of the product. Another advantage of having the latest technologies and machineries is that it will save a lot of time and effort for the company and save your money too.



5. Quotation on the pricing:

An experienced manufacturer will be able to give you the best pricing for the product that you are looking for, since the company has been in this field for years and have worked on similar projects. They will have a good precision on the cost of the product and also, guide you on how you could save money. Normally, businesses tend to work with a company that gives lowest quotation, but it is important to remember, that just by choosing a cheap pricing you may compromise on the kind of service you will get later. So, make sure that along with the cost you get top notch service.

6. Delivery time:

The most crucial feature of any progressive company is when it comes to the delivery time. An experienced progressive tool company will give you a set deadline on their completion of work and will understand the importance of delivering products on time. So, you need to analyze as to how many projects they are currently handling and by when will the delivery of those projects take place. This will help you understand as to what you can expect from the company and how efficiently they will deliver your part on time.



7. Expertise of the workers:

Apart from the technology, it is important to evaluate if the workers in the company know exactly how the process control works and if the workers receive training from time to time. Speak directly to the engineer or the point of contact that is in charge of your project and make sure that you ask precise questions related to your project. Notice carefully if the engineer is able to grasp details about your project and is able to answer all your queries. This will help you to identify the right progressive tool company that you want to work with as this decision will later give you a hassle free service.

8. Proper Maintenance program:

The wear and tear of the tools naturally occurs over a period of time and so it is of utmost importance that the company has a dedicated team assigned to take care of the maintenance of these machines. Having a team to take care of the machines is advantageous as it will

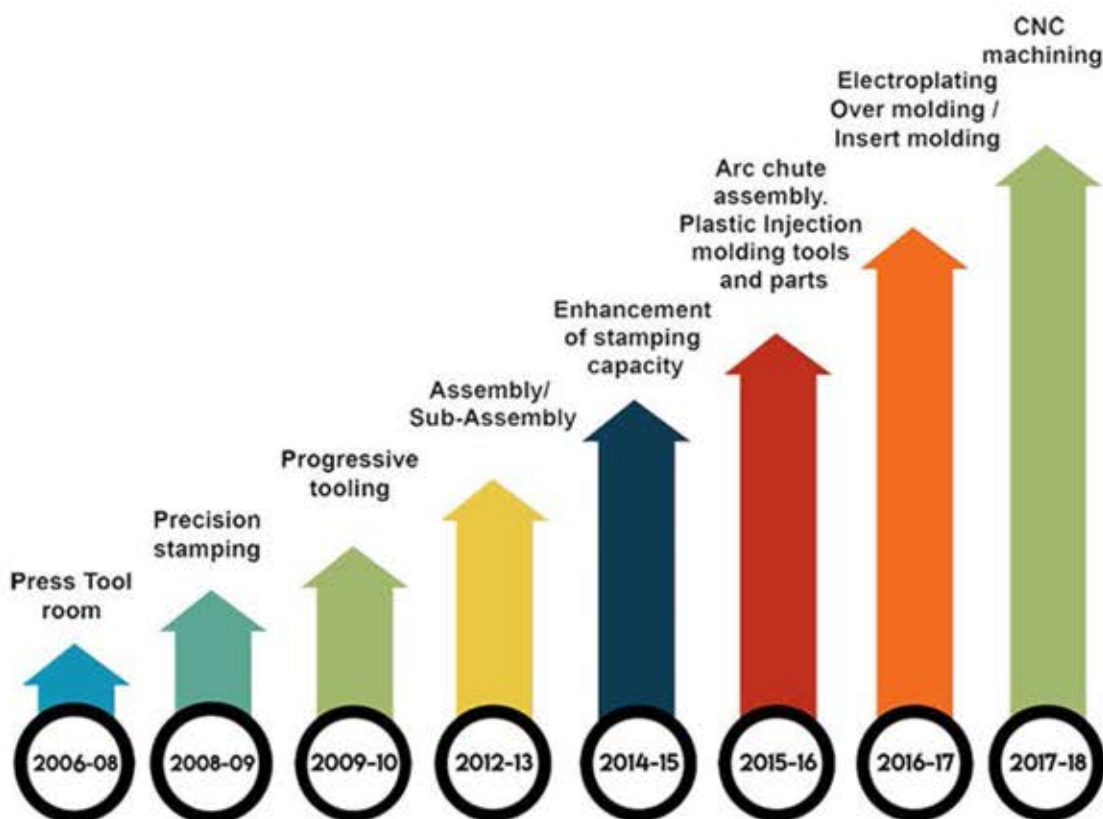


- a) Ensure that the tools and machines are in tip top condition
- b) Prevent future expensive repairs
- c) It will increase the safety of the workers and
- d) Also give you the confidence that the company will stick to their promise and deliver the product on time.

So, inspect if there is a system in place for maintaining and monitoring the machines in the company that will help in preventing damages.

9. Company's Track record:

A company's track record directly reflects on their reputation. Having a proven and strong track record helps in attracting customers who in the long run will remain loyal and continue buying the services and products from the company. So, when you visit the company, ask them for some reference of customers who have already used their services. Interacting with the customers who have previously worked with the company, will help you estimate as to how much satisfaction you can gain from doing business with them.



10. Company's Run time:

One of the important factors that you will want to check with the company is on the run time. Take note of how much time it takes for the machine to switch products on the production machine because this has a major impact on the overall cost, time, quality and delivery of the product. In progressive tool process the continuous material feed allows for a run time which means that the parts for your project can be produced at a faster rate in a much shorter time.

These are some of the ways in which you can identify the best progressive tool manufacturer for your project. However, remember that your project is unique and extremely valuable to you. There is a lot of money, planning, time and effort already involved in designing the product, so make sure that the progressive tool company you want to do business with, has a standard of high-quality service and they can go to any extent to meet your precise requirements. They should be able to accept the challenge of creating new products and be completely dedicated to your project till they deliver the product on time.





Thank You

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