

PRESSING ISSUES

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Tog-L-Loc® Featured in Appliance Magazine

BTM's patented Tog-L-Loc® sheet metal joining system was featured in the March 2004 issue of Appliance Magazine. Contributing editor David Simpson explains how a major appliance company switched from a cumbersome spot-welding procedure to a more streamlined and ergonomic Tog-L-Loc® process in his article "Assembling the Evolving Appliance" (page 50). The company utilized a BTM hand-held air-over-hydraulic clinch lock unit to reach a washer cabinet hole.

An excerpt from the article follows:

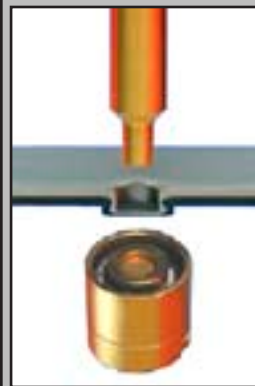
"While tried and true assembly methods sometimes continue to work well, it is not a bad idea to do a periodic review. One major appliance company did so and found an alternative to a spot welding operation. Previously, the spot welder was swung into place in a hard-to-reach washer cabinet hole to apply a single weld. This was a cumbersome, non-ergonomic operation.

After a review, the appliance company switched to a Tog-L-Loc system from BTM Corporation (Marysville, MI, U.S.). The appliance OEM reports that the hand-held, air-over-hydraulic clinch lock unit, supported by a balancer, is easier to maneuver and operate. The company feels that nothing is compromised in joint quality with the new approach.

BTM adds that clinched joints are consistently applied, and that the joint expands and contracts at the same rate as the surrounding material. Spot welding, however, may be subject to cold weld, too much flash, the presence of oil, tip conditions, and power fluctuations, which affect the quality and consistency."

Spotlight On Products

BTM Corporation is the world-leading manufacturer of sheet metal joining systems. Sheet Metal Joining, often called Clinching, is a cost-saving alternative to spot-welding, threaded fastening, riveting and adhesive dispensing. The reason for these cost savings is the ability to achieve joint strength requirements while eliminating the need for costly commodities such as weld tips, fasteners, adhesives and associated production equipment. The foundation of these cost savings is BTM's patented Tog-L-Loc sheet metal joining system, which produces clean, strong, and consistent joints in most coated, non-coated and dissimilar materials.



Tog-L-Loc is a circular, leak-proof joint formed by drawing the metals into a circular "cup" and expanding the diameter to form a 360-degree lock below the bottom sheet. This is achieved through the use of BTM's patented 3-bladed die, which expands during the formation of the joint. The expanding 3-bladed die design reduces the amount of force required to clinch a joint, while allowing for the easy removal of the materials once a joint is formed. It also provides a self-cleaning feature, which ensures joint quality is not compromised by foreign matter, such as oil, being left in the die. Tog-L-Loc is generally preferred due to its omni-directional strength characteristics, excellent fatigue properties and exceptional tool life.

BTM Corporation specializes in the design and manufacture of highly productive sheet metal joining equipment, components and accessories. We have extensive experience with automotive, appliance, electronics, furniture, building products and many other applications. For more information, see our web site at www.btmcorp.com, or call us at (810) 364-4567.

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Quality Corner

BTM announced it has achieved Conformance with ISO 9001:2000 Standard, and “has successfully completed a Quality Management System which has been registered by Alliance International Registrar, LLC”. BTM chose to pursue ISO 9001:2000 certification after having held the QS9000-TE certification for the previous 3 years.

“Receiving ISO 9001:2000 certification solidifies our position as a world class manufacturing company delivering quality products and innovative technology to industry”, said Steve Sawdon, President of BTM Corporation.

BTM CORPORATION *Quality is a Team Effort*

Best products on the market, supplied on time and defect free.

BTM technology innovators continuously thinking to improve products and processes.

BTM manufacturing and machine building capabilities of world class status.

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“Quarterly Quotes”

“Don’t bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself.”
- William Faulkner



Welcome to the BTM Team!
Lee Owens - Sales and Marketing Assistant

BTM Quality Products



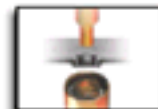
Air Toggle Presses



Air/Oil Cylinders



Hydraulic Presses



Tog-Loc Sheet Metal Joining System



Power Clamps



Precision Locators



Power Grippers