

# METAL

P R E S S

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## BLAZING *fast*

### Parma Zooms Through T-events!

If you blinked, you might have missed the T-events for the progressive die used to stamp GMT-355 (2004 small pickup) rear side door inner reinforcements at Parma Metal Center. They happened that fast.

The stretch target for a progressive die to complete the four T-events is 12 weeks. In this case everything was done in just five hours.

"This is the first time we've had a die do that for us," says Alan Haber, Parma T-event coordinator. "It should happen more often. Lansing Tool and Engineering did a great job getting it ready. We had the easy part."

Lansing Tool and Engineering worked closely with Complete Design Service to develop a working prototype for the in-die "accumulator" system used on this die. Once the bugs were worked out, they came up with a finely tuned,

smooth-running mechanism that accumulates parts at the end of the die. The parts are then released in a pre-set, organized manner to technicians at the end of the line who inspect the parts and load them in baskets. Since the system has proven to work reliably, accumulators have been designed and added to many other progressive dies running at Parma.

"Everything worked exactly as it should," adds Paul Easter, senior manufacturing engineer, Die Engineering Integration. "If we hit a home run like this every time, we'd really be flying. Anytime you don't have to send a die out for more revisions and tryouts, you have more time to complete other items. Successes like this help us achieve our 24-month vehicle development process goal."



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