

CASE OF SUCCESS

LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP

PAYS DIVIDENDS

FOR NUTEC BICKLEY



Nutec Bickley's Fabrication & Installations Service (FIS)

division has played a vital part in a \$170 million (€145 million) expansion at the Mexican facility operated by Prime Wheel Corp in Cañón del Padre, Tijuana, Baja California. This is a significant project in the world of aluminum automotive wheel manufacturing.

Nutec Bickley was contracted by system design company Seco Warwick Corp for the complete manufacture and on-site installation of two continuous heat-treat solution lines. Each of the heat-treat lines is 80m (260ft) long and each involved a steel casing weight of 133 metric tons – including ASTM A36 and AISI 304 steel material.

The lines fabricated and installed by Nutec Bickley comprise solution heat-treat furnaces, water quenching systems, aging ovens, cooling hoods and conveyor handling systems. The maximum operating temperature of the furnaces is 550°C (1020°F) and they are capable of operating 24/7 with just planned breaks for maintenance.

“This \$2.7 million contract is a flagship project for the FIS business unit,” commented FIS Manager, Alfonso Lugo. “Prime Wheel supplies quality aluminum products to companies all over the world, both to the aftermarket sector but also as an OEM manufacturer for some of the best known global brands.

“We have a long-standing partnership with Prime Wheel – dating back over six years – and total investment with us now stands at \$6.5 million. It’s certainly a firm endorsement of our fabrication excellence that we were chosen to contribute the solution lines for this major greenfield expansion project.”

At the Cañón del Padre plant – situated around 30 minutes from the border crossing with the US – Prime Wheel already manufactures 5 million wheels annually with around 4,000 staff on a 700,000 sq.ft. (65,000 sq.m.) site. The expansion will see a 50% increase, to 7.5 million units, and the addition of some 1,100 people. Prime Wheel specializes in high-grade, one-piece wheels and counts the likes of Daimler, FCA, Ford, BMW, Tesla, GM and Nissan among its customers.

Nutec Bickley's work on this project entailed 40 weeks on the fabrication element and 30 weeks of installation time. The company had already previously fabricated and installed four lines for this customer.



Do you have a planned project that could benefit from Nutec Bickley's fabrication and installation expertise?

Contact us today to discuss how we can efficiently and cost effectively bring everything to fruition for you:

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