



# Auto-Cast

## Grandville, MI

**The Challenge:** Auto-Cast specializes in automotive die casting and production of aluminum and zinc consumer products. The company was using a lot of energy to keep the facility's nine machine lines running two shifts, five days a week. Founded in 1971, the family-owned Michigan company has been passed down through generations and is always looking for ways to save energy in its manufacturing processes, especially the operations using compressed air.

**The Solution:** An energy advisor specializing in compressed air nozzles showed Auto-Cast how it could become drastically more efficient and reduce the CFM output by up to 75% by installing compressed air nozzle - provided free of charge. The solution was so successful on one machine line that all nine machine lines were outfitted with the new nozzles, all paid entirely by Consumers Energy.

**The Result:** Consumers Energy showed Auto-Cast how it could save energy, money, reduce air pollution and improve the work environment. Auto-Cast also noticed reduced maintenance on machines and less downtime.

## Compressed Air Project Details

- **Upgrades:**
  - 121 compressed air nozzles
  - Stay set hoses
- **Overall Incentive:** \$104,984
- **Annual Electric Savings:** 1,465,879 kWh
- **Estimated Annual Cost Savings:** \$117,270



**Consumers Energy**

*Count on Us®*

**“The team didn’t want to admit I was right, but everything worked better and made their jobs easier and the work environment quieter.”**

John Vanoverloop, Plant Supervisor  
Auto-Cast



### **Energy Savings in Action:**

Auto-Cast swapped the open air tubing, used in the drying process, to precision compressed air nozzles. This change drastically reduced the amount of energy the machines used, reduced the machine downtime for cleaning and maintenance and saved the company a noticeable amount of money every year.

#### **The Best Part**

*For Auto-Cast Operations:* the entire project was completed free of charge with minimal downtime that didn’t interfere with production.

*For Auto-Cast Employees:* a noticeably quieter work environment and breathing cleaner less polluted air inside the plant.

*For the environment:* a measured improvement reducing outside air pollution.

## **We are here to help**

The biggest challenge in reducing energy use in your business is knowing where to start. Consumers Energy is here to help.

The Business Energy Efficiency Programs team will guide you every step of the way to provide a simplified, hassle-free process.

### **Get your free compressed air nozzles and change your business:**

Contact Kerry Tufnell at **517-899-8407** or **[kerry.tufnell@cmsenergy.com](mailto:kerry.tufnell@cmsenergy.com)** to explore this opportunity.