

## Nakagawa Precision Parts Co., Ltd.



Nakagawa Precision Parts Co., Ltd, located in Chichibu-shi Japan, exclusively processes car press parts for the Japanese automotive industry. Nakagawa's Miyazaki Factory manufactures car parts such as ABS brakes, door locks, and steering wheel locks, in varying measurements from the size of a hand to the tip of a little finger. Five large press machines weighing produce 1,400 tons of parts annually.

Eighty percent of items requiring storage are metallic molds. Of the total 850 molds owned by Nakagawa 200 are frequently used (more than once per month) and are kept in the Daifuku Unit Load AS/RS, or Automated Storage and Retrieval System. The remaining molds are stored in conventional pallet racks.

Beside molds, the AS/RS also stores materials such as boxes, steel sheets and stainless coils. In addition the AS/RS works as a buffer to temporarily store finished products before they are shipped to customers.

### Solution Highlights

- In 2001, Kansai introduced the Unit Load AS/RS to their factory for the storage of pallet loads of car press parts
- The AS/RS stores 200 parts molds utilizing automatic staging for the next processes and offering orderly storage locations
- Finished manufactured parts are supplied Honda
- The input/output operation is done remotely from forklifts
- The AS/RS contains 2 S/R (storage and retrieval) machines and has a 240-pallet storage capacity
- Factory Manager Mr. K. Eto explains, "The AS/RS is praised for: 1) saving space inside the factory, 2) creating an orderly and attractive storage area, 3) enabling easy control of molds, and 4) automatic staging for the next processes."