



## Magnys Helps Blue Bird Save \$55 Million

The Blue Bird Bus Co. produces thousands of school buses, commercial buses and recreational vehicles annually. They approached Magnys after plans to purchase a chassis from an OEM supplier fell through, forcing them to design and manufacture their own.

Blue Bird estimated they could reduce the number of man-hours required to produce a chassis from 45 to 37, and invited us to review their installation plan. We told them we could help them reduce that number to 20, at which point they welcomed us to the team.

### *How did Magnys help Blue Bird?*

- We helped them identify which of their four plants would be the most cost-effective location for the new line, generating detailed layouts, cost estimates and benefit and risk matrices for their facilities. We also considered whether it would be more cost-efficient to combine some or all of their chassis lines into a single line.
- We helped them determine the level of modernization of the new line, taking into account program cost and associated man-power levels per chassis to optimize use of both manual labor and automation. In all, we produced 40 different concept layouts with 15 different cost estimates and production plans.
- We worked with their design team to determine the assembly process for the new chassis and we wrote all operator work instructions.
- We created bid packages for the conveyors and build carts, bridge systems and decking loops, fluid fill equipment and multi-spindle tools.

### *Bottom line? Real-world, measurable results for Blue Bird ...*

- Reduced man-hours required per chassis by 56%
- Budgeted repair time per vehicle reduced from 8 hours to almost zero
- Consolidated 4 plants into 3
- First chassis produced on time and under budget
- **Saved \$55 million in labor costs over 10-year project**