

## Case Story

### Problem:

Meubles Canadel is a family owned Canadian manufacturer founded in 1982, specializing in the design, assembly, finishing and marketing of casual dining furniture. Dust is generated from grinding and sanding operations. They use dust collectors to capture where they can but a lot of dust is not captured and is airborne. This dust settles everywhere and migrates throughout the plant. Partitions were used extensively to try to contain the flow of dust within the plant. The filth created by this dust made for an inhospitable environment. The operators had to wear face masks. Pine and oak wood fibers (oak especially) create a carcinogen, a poisoning emission, during the sanding process which causes a serious and real health and safety risk to the employees.

### Solution:

Plant 1 manufactures cabinets, buffets and bureaus. In 1997 a VAC 20-2500 was installed to handle on-tool capture for 14 pneumatic sanders and grinders. Automatic valves had not been installed. When installation was completed, 22 operators were hooked up. Now, 40 operators are hooked up and automatic valves have been installed. Plant 2 and 3 manufacture chairs and table tops. In 1999, a VAC 20-2500 was installed with automatic valves and is hooked-up to 33 work stations, sanding and grinding on-tool for plant 2. In 2000 the same was installed for 20 work stations.



### Result:

Units and FlexFilters are installed outside, and are used more each day. Today, curtains or separators are no longer required and the workers refuse to work unless the on-tool system is functioning. The system keeps the working environment free from particulate that could affect the production of this furniture. The VAC units perform with the reliability necessary to maintain production and a clean working environment.

