

Application case study:

Open and shut case for direct-fix technology and EJOT's SHEETtracs fastener



F C Brown, better known in the UK as the manufacturer behind the Bisley office equipment brand, has made the decision to utilise direct-fix technology in the production of its extensive steel filing cabinet range.

By adopting the EJOT SHEETtracs fastener, the need for locking washers and self clinching nuts will be eliminated from the production process, saving on component costs and reducing assembly time. Browns were quick to see the cost saving potential but equally keen to put the fastener to the test as a senior executive explained;

"We were very aware that EJOT's fastening technology literally holds some of the world's fastest cars together but before we moved away from traditional assembly methods, we wanted to put SHEETtracs through its paces using our own testing techniques."

The fastener is being used for sheet to sheet fixing in the composition of pedestal draws but Brown's needed to be convinced that the greater torque and stability created through the reduced flank, would be enough to withstand the continual punishment that the ergonomics of any working environment can generate.

"Our testing simulates a lifetime of use in the most stressful office situations which means the joints had to withstand repetitive forceful slamming. The simulation utilized weights of up to 16kg loaded onto the join and the draws were opened and closed no less than 80,000 times."

Production will now phase in the new process and Brown's expect to see substantial cost savings to the overall process.

