

Your own leveler in five easy steps

Once the sheet metal part is delivered, you determine the stability and efficiency of your clients' molding and welding processes, often without knowing it – since the pitfalls of further processing reside in “invisible” tension in the sheet metal. Suppliers in particular, such as laser job shops, secure a significant market position when they use a leveler to provide their customers even sheets free of tension. Acquiring levelers for your business can help your company obtain new customers and new job orders. From consultation, purchase decision, setup to start, we will show you in the next five steps the way to obtain your own leveler.

1st Step: Root cause analysis of mistakes: are defects due to leveling?

A big problem in terms of sheet metal tension is that it is neither visible nor can it be precisely measured. Only during further treatment of the sheet metal do customers notice that the processing is not running smoothly. They usually attribute the cause of the problem to how the workpieces are being processed. Are the welding robots the problem, are they not working as they should be? Or is the problem on the workbench? Only when these possible sources of the problem can be eliminated do sheet metal workers finally realize that the problem could be in the workpiece itself. Tension occurs during sheet processing (especially after they are punch-pressed or laser-cut), and this tension can lead to warping and inaccurate measurements. The result are scraps and time-consuming reworking.

2nd Step: Testing in the leveling center

In order to find the root cause of processing delays in your shop, you can test your troublesome workpieces at our leveling center. Together, we can find out whether the problem is the leveling (or better said, uneven sheet metal) or not. After all, there is no reference value for material tension. A sheet can be even but still have tension.

After leveling the workpiece, you will find out whether the process improved. Is the robot welder producing more reliable work now? Have the assembly times been markedly reduced? If so, you should consider incorporating leveling into your treatment process.

By the way: ARKU offers new customers coupons for free leveling trials.

3rd Step: Consultation with experts and technical performance alignment

Once you have found out that your processes can be greatly improved with leveled parts, the next step is a detailed consultation. During this meeting with one of our experienced consultants, you will discuss in detail the possible suitable application of the leveler. Typical criteria that influence the decision are minimum and maximum sheet thickness, part cross-section, materials and their rigidity. Based on the data at hand, we can assess whether purchasing a leveler is the right decision for you or whether leasing the service would be the better alternative.

A leveling diagram with different variable gives a better idea about the optimum application for a leveler. In addition, we will gladly advise you based on our extensive database of long-term test data with different sheets and workpieces.

You need experience to choose the right leveler. We will share our knowledge with you accrued based on thousands of levelers we installed. You can test within most of the spectrum with our machines at our leveling centers. However, you can also let the expertise of industry manufacturers regarding important aspects such as reliability, machine load or limits of the leveling process influence your decision as to which leveler to purchase.

With the help of these factors, you can determine exactly how to deploy your leveler. Jobs that go beyond the scope of your normal tasks can then be done by leased leveler centers, for instance.

4th Step: Integration into the existing process chain sheet metal

Leveling is always essentially a very quick process. Therefore, you should pay special attention to incorporating the machine into your existing manufacturing process.

When ordering a leveler, consider how you will integrate it into your processes. What is your existing logistical infrastructure like? How is straightness or evenness measured? Is it advisable to deploy a robot to handle parts? How are different machines arranged to ensure minimal intervention from employees?

We will work out a plan for you on how you can reduce the time it takes to handle parts. For this purpose, it makes sense to align the machines (such as levelers or deburring equipment) so that the parts only have to pass through one set of hands one time.

Verify where in the process chain you can save time and personnel or reduce transportation routes and get the most out of your leveler.

5th Step: Purchase decision, delivery and installation

If your leveler model is within your spectrum and aligned with your processes, you can close the deal. You can decide between purchasing upfront or opt for a personalized finance option. The time it takes to deliver the equipment is usually within a few months. Transport, installation and training can be added as an option in the purchase agreement.

Then, setting it up in your shop is quick: your new equipment is ready to run within the same day. Thanks to the machine's easy and intuitive operation, you can get started using it right away.

Security measures such as the hydraulic overload protector ensure that even novice users are not able to damage the machine by using it the wrong way. When needed, you can book additional seminars and training sessions on effective leveling procedures.

ARKU levelers are very maintenance free and have a long machine life. You can usually perform maintenance on it yourself. Of course, we can also take care of regular machine maintenance for you if you want. Either upon request or in terms of a favorable maintenance agreement.

If you ever need fast support, we can help you with our remote diagnosis online, our 24-hour hotline or any of our expert service teams around the world.

1 Find the problem

- What causes problems with further processing of sheet metal?

2 Testing at the leveling center

- Use our leveling center for trial leveling using your materials. Test which level of straightness you want using our levelers.
- Level troublesome workpieces and later process them as usual in your own shop. Was the problem fixed? If so, the problem was caused by invisible sheet metal tension.

3 Consultations with experts and technical performance alignent

- Discover other capabilities of leveling
- Find out the best area of application and leveler model
- Consider your customers' demands
- Option to test various leveler models in leveling and deburring centers
- Take advantage of manufacturer know-how

4 Integration in the sheet metal process chain

- Consider handling logistics
- Determine automatization, handling and arrangement

5 Purchase decision, delivery and installation

- Close agreement
- Delivery time in a few months
- Installation & startup within a day
- Employee training