

Sharp blades: How Siemens is transforming Canada's national sport together with Elite Blade Performance Technology

Hockey is a large part of Canadian culture, and a player's skates are a vital piece of the game. The shape, or profile, of a skate blade plays a critical role in a hockey player's performance. Minute changes to the profile of the skate blade can affect a player's speed, their agility and control on the ice.

Most teams of the North American professional league NHL have a 23-player roster, and each player uses up to 16 sets of blades in a regular season. Once a player determines the profile that maximizes their individual performance, they want guaranteed consistency.

Elite Blade Performance Technology manufacturers automated systems for the shaping and sharpening of skate blades used by approximately 85 pro teams in North America including NHL, American League, NCAA, major junior and the new Professional Women's Hockey League.

When Elite Blade transitioned its sharpening system from an analog system to a digital system, they needed a digital control system that would read the blade and then program the speed and pressure of the sharpening pass to preserve the profile.

Siemens offered Elite Blade a complete and unique solution which includes state of the art technology:

- The new Siemens unified basic panel gives the operator a very user-friendly interface to operate the machine.
- The control system which includes 8200 ESP controller and S210 servo drives, helps the system achieve the precision they need on each sharpening.
- The radio frequency identification system helps the customer achieve a high level of traceability of their system through all their processes.
- An IoT 2050 module allows Elite to connect remotely to their system, as well as a remote dashboard to see the health of the system. Siemens solution brings precision, reliability, repeatability and consistency.

As well, Siemens helps in the development and the refinement of the system's programming and collaborates with Elite to offer new technology advancements.

Consistent skate performance means better results for players. The new innovations in sharpening technology give players what they need to completely trust their blades on the ice, and focus on the game.



Siemens supports cutting-edge technology for Elite Blade Technology Performance Technology's sharpening system

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Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a leading technology company focused on industry, infrastructure, mobility, and healthcare. The company's purpose is to create technology to transform the everyday, for everyone. By combining the real and the digital worlds, Siemens empowers customers to accelerate their digital and sustainability transformations, making factories more efficient, cities more livable, and transportation more sustainable. Siemens also owns a majority stake in the publicly listed company Siemens Healthineers, a leading global medical technology provider pioneering breakthroughs in healthcare. For everyone. Everywhere. Sustainably.

In fiscal 2024, which ended on September 30, 2024, the Siemens Group generated revenue of €75.9 billion and net income of €9.0 billion. As of September 30, 2024, the company employed around 312,000 people worldwide on the basis of continuing operations. Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.