WE HAVE BEEN RUNNING PRESS BRAKES WHY SHOULD WE INVESTIGATE CNC FOLDING TECHNOLOGY?
Folders don’t actually compete with Press Brakes, they complement them. When parts become difficult on a Press Brake because of the physical size or multiple complex bends, a CNC folder will provide some real advantages.

AREN’T THE FOLDING MACHINES MEANT FOR LARGE BATCH SIZES OR PRODUCTION RUNS?
Older folding machines were dedicated to a certain type of part and were production orientated but didn’t offer flexibility. Today CNC Folding Machines have quick tool set up and the ability to drag solid models into the control, lending themselves to lean manufacturing and small batch sizes. Still capable of longer runs.

WHAT SIZE OR TYPE OF PRODUCT IS BETTER BENT ON A CNC FOLDER?
When the part size becomes difficult for one operator to handle and when parts require multiple set ups. Larger parts sit flat on the backgauge table on the folder, and we clamp and bend the flange, unlike a Press Brake where you have to manipulate the majority of the part. Also folders have extremely good angle accuracy and repeatability and are less affected by the operator positioning involvement. So parts with multiple bends with critical angle tolerances and multiple tool sets are easier to accomplish and repeat on a folding machine.

THE FEW CNC FOLDERS WE HAVE SEEM TO HAVE A SLOW CYCLE TIME, HOW CAN THEY BE MORE PRODUCTIVE?
You need to consider that some CNC Folders automatically adjust for material thickness with a few having Automatic Intelligent Crowning. These operations are time consuming on a Press Brake. That coupled with easier part handling and precision ground self-aligning tools will result in a better lean and small batch productivity.

RAS Systems has raised the bar again for maximum accuracy and repeatability. Our innovative designs that greatly reduce set-up and shorten cycle times have made RAS folders the state-of-the-art in metal forming technology. When combined with our “Bendex 3D One-Click Programming” the integration of idea and final product becomes seamless.