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Horst Engineering Opens New Plant

New facility is part of an ongoing expansion

EAST HARTFORD, CT., Nov. 4, 2015 – Horst Engineering, a leading contract manufacturer of precision machined aerospace components, formally opened a new manufacturing facility in South Windsor, Connecticut.

About 50 company advisors, suppliers, and industry friends joined with employees for a ribbon cutting ceremony at their 490 Burnham St. factory. A series of tours for customers is being scheduled. The factory expansion creates a dedicated center of excellence for their Swiss screw machine operations. In moving all CNC Swiss machines to a new plant, the company has freed up space at its two East Hartford sites to increase turning, milling, centerless grinding, and thread rolling capacity.

This factory, coupled with a planned expansion at the company's Massachusetts operations, replaces a factory in Mexico. That operation was closed earlier this year after it proved difficult to recruit sufficiently skilled labor to produce the company's high precision products.

"The Connecticut River Valley and New England workforce is so highly skilled that it makes up for what was initially perceived as a lower cost of doing business in Mexico," said Scott Livingston, Horst Engineering Chief Executive Officer.

Currently, there are 24 employees at the new 16,000 square-foot leased facility, although the number of employees is expected to grow over the next 12-18 months as new orders are received.

Horst Engineering was founded in 1946 by Harry "Horst" Livingston, the current CEO's grandfather. Today, in addition to serving the commercial and defense aerospace industries, the company also manufactures products for the medical, motorsports, and power generation industries; and is involved with the high end bicycle market through their Horst Spikes product line.

"Recruiting skilled workers in the U.S. remains a priority," Livingston said. "We are optimistic that our technical schools will progress in the development of the talent needed to support a growing aerospace industry in the region, but mindful of the challenges that New England faces in its attempt to produce the next generation of manufacturing workers."

"We are excited to deepen our local ties," Livingston said. "We are continuing to review various government incentives and other opportunities for growth in both Connecticut and Massachusetts. With a strong aerospace industry, I am optimistic that we will be able to accelerate our expansion through 2016."

About Horst Engineering:

The Horst Engineering Family of Companies, made of Horst Engineering., Sterling Machine, and Thread Rolling Inc., was founded in 1946, and is a privately held contract manufacturer of precision machined components and assemblies for aerospace and other high technology industries. Its core processes include Swiss screw machining, turning, milling, thread rolling, centerless grinding, honing, and assembly. The company currently employs 44 people at in Massachusetts; and 105 people in Connecticut. www.horstengineering.com

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