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Horst Engineering Opens New Factory

Advanced Manufacturing in Connecticut is on the Rise

EAST HARTFORD, CT., Oct. 12, 2021 – Horst Engineering, a leading contract manufacturer of precision machined components for aerospace and other high technology industries, today formally opened a new manufacturing facility in the community, highlighting the beginning of a comeback in the aerospace industry, spurring their diversification efforts, and marking the firm's 75th anniversary in Connecticut.

The ribbon-cutting at the factory, on seven acres at 141 Prestige Park Road, East Hartford, featured remarks by U.S. Rep. John Larson (D-1^{st)} as well as other state and local government officials.

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

The company recently closed operations in other states to focus on the expansion in Connecticut. About 90 employees work at the firm in East Hartford.

Rep. Larson said, "I am thrilled to welcome the expansion of Horst Engineering in Connecticut and participate in today's ribbon-cutting of their new factory in East Hartford."

"Defense and aerospace manufacturing is in Connecticut's DNA and I am proud to support the work of manufacturers like Horst Engineering as they continue to grow and prosper in our state. In Congress, I will continue to fight for Connecticut's defense manufacturing priorities and expand job training opportunities to build on our pipeline of skilled laborers," he added.

East Hartford Mayor Marcia Leclerc said, "Horst Engineering has been a tremendous business and a great community partner in the Town of East Hartford, dedicated to establishing a reputation of professionalism and reliability. The new facility echoes that sentiment as they reinforce their commitment to the Town of East Hartford and the industries that they serve."

"We are excited to deepen our local ties," Livingston said. "With an aerospace industry moving up from its pandemic doldrums, I am optimistic that we will be able to accelerate our operations in the months ahead. We already are looking to hire workers in multiple roles at the company."

The company acquired the property in 2019 for about \$1.5 million and then completely renovated the 100,566 square-foot former warehouse to accommodate state-of-the-art computer-aided manufacturing. The facility consolidates under one roof, operations that had been spread over multiple locations.

"Recruiting skilled workers has always been a challenge," Livingston said. "As in the past, we look to the state's technical schools for continuing progress in development of the talent needed to support the advanced manufacturing industries, including aerospace, in our region. I am pleased that today we can showcase our operations so folks can see that manufacturing is high tech, sophisticated, and rewarding."

"We make components for the most demanding customers in the world," Livingston added. The company's components are used on commercial and defense fixed wing aircraft and rotorcraft. They are installed in a wide range of airframe, propulsion, and component sub-systems.

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 capital equipment, medical device, naval/marine, and power generation industries. They are also the designers of *Cross Spikes* for the specialty cycling market and creators of the HORST Dreidel, which they will once again offer in limited quantities for Hanukkah 2021.

About Horst Engineering:

Horst Engineering 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. <u>www.horstengineering.com</u>

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