



THE ProgRESsive

Mission

"Our mission is to be the best-in-class provider of precision metal stampings, assemblies and value-added services. Res will operate safely, ethically and profitably to benefit its customers, associates, shareholders, and suppliers."

Res Manufacturing is a contract manufacturer of metal components for

**SHAPE CRITICAL
SURFACE CRITICAL
and
HIGH STRENGTH**
applications.

We specialize in:

- ◆ PROGRESSIVE DIE STAMPINGS
- ◆ DESIGN ASSISTANCE
- ◆ PROTOTYPES
- ◆ TOOL BUILD
- ◆ HEAT TREATING, WELDING, TAPPING, MACHINING
- ◆ AUTOMATED ASSEMBLY

MANAGEMENT VIEWS

Res welcomes our new Vice President—Sales and Marketing

I am sincerely privileged to have joined Res Manufacturing in mid-August. In my 25 years in business in several industries, I have never been more impressed with the quality and vision of an organization and associates that form the cornerstone of this organization. So I start respectful of this and enthusiastic of the challenges ahead.

My family is from the Milwaukee area and I have witnessed a great deal of business transition in this region during the last 25 years. This transition has brought about change with the best in class companies having evolved as being in position to serve the needs of the world marketplace.

A best in class business today fundamentally is one that provides the best overall value proposition to its customer base. Res has endeavored to achieve this through engineering assistance and innovation from design through

production, expertise in materials, advanced quality management systems, and rapid response to changing customer needs. I see this being enhanced through the current activities to further upgrade Res facilities, training investment in existing and new associates, and continual improvement through our ISO/TS 16949 certified advanced manufacturing and management system.

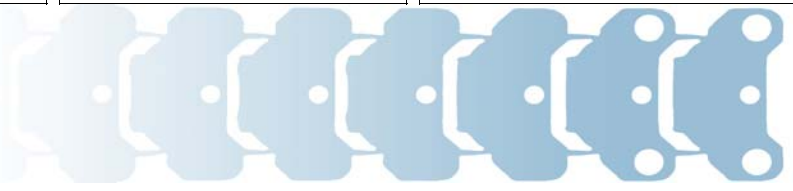
During my first several weeks I have had an opportunity to meet with a number of our customers and will continue this process on an ongoing basis. During this period, we have also seen the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita and their impact on the entire nation. Foremost, we express our concerns and have initiated company wide efforts to provide support for those directly impacted by these events. Res Manufacturing is also proactively working with its supply base to minimize the impact on our customers. More details on this were

communicated in a letter, distributed electronically on a real time basis, to our customers on September 12th.

As Res continues to grow into a larger organization, it is my pledge to fully support the values and beliefs of the organization while maintaining and continuing to improve the value we provide to our customer base, opportunities to suppliers, and the deserved return to all stakeholders. Given the significant growth the organization has achieved during the last 2 years, this will be a significant challenge. But, a challenge I certainly welcome given the exceptional & dedicated team of Res associates, the organization's leadership vision, and my personal commitment to support this pledge.

Kindest regards,

John Wittmann,
Vice President—Sales and Marketing



Ground-Breaking Study reveals the State of the Manufacturing Industry in Wisconsin

Res recently hosted a press conference revealing the Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership's (WMEP) study results. The WMEP analyzed Wisconsin's manufacturing base in an effort to strengthen Wisconsin for global competition in the New Economy.

"This is a ground-breaking study that gives industry leaders, state policy makers and the public new insights into the opportunities and challenges facing Wisconsin's industrial sector," said Michael Klonsinski, WMEP's executive director.

The study narrows the Wisconsin Manufacturing Sector down to 24 "driver" industries. "Driver" industries are those that drive Wisconsin's manufacturing economy. As well as comparing Wisconsin's driver industries to other states and regions, the study also interviewed Wisconsin manufacturers to learn the strengths and weaknesses of the state. The following strengths were noted:

- Proximity to a vast consumer population
- Excellent transportation infrastructure
- A superior, highly skilled workforce
- Well-educated managerial and engineering talent
- Outstanding support industries
- Active manufacturing intermediaries
- A highly-valued quality of life

As well as strengths, the following weaknesses were highlighted in the study:

- Manufacturing has a poor image professionally
- Taxes are high
- Businesses are unable to contain manufacturing costs
- Older, reliable workers are retiring soon, making it challenging to replace and retain new workers

Among other things, the study summarized the following steps for Wisconsin to achieve a global competitive advantage:

- Reinstate tax incentives to encourage new equipment and technology purchases
- Support automated manufacturing through tax incentives or other subsidies
- Support or provide state-funded on-the-job training, especially for new employees
- Introduce tort and regulatory reform that will reduce liability for manufacturers
- Recruit new businesses to Wisconsin, especially in the southwest
- Provide assistance in linking manufacturers to new export distribution channels
- Provide assistance in overcoming ethnic language blocks

WMEP is a Wisconsin-based organization created to provide assistance to small and mid-sized manufacturers in increasing productivity and competing globally. WMEP offers manufacturers help in manufacturing practices and technology. For more information, visit their website at www.wmep.org.

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Res Raises Money for Hurricane Katrina Relief

What a great effort by Res and its associates! The Res team raised \$4,550.00 for Hurricane Katrina relief. Through a matching program at Res, associates were able to double their contribution to this worthy humanitarian fund. The donation was granted to the American Red Cross to help in their relief efforts in the hurricane-torn devastation zone.

