



Dameron Alloy Foundries Enters Aircraft/Aerospace Markets

On July 1st of this year, Dameron Alloy Foundries headquartered in Compton, CA, entered into an agreement with Precision MicroCast (PMI) of Ventura, CA whereby we acquired the assets and the use of their facilities, and assumed responsibility for the continuation of their services to their customers, vendors and employees. In addition to pouring many of the same alloy compositions as Dameron, Precision MicroCast also has the capability of vacuum pouring many nickel and cobalt base alloys for use in the aircraft, aerospace and defense industries.

Founded by Fred Fletcher on the premise of providing complete ferrous and non-ferrous quality investment castings and superb services to the industry, PMI began producing investment castings in 1988 at its current location. Ray Ahuja joined the company in 1990. Many of their early customers have remained loyal to PMI and the quality castings that the foundry regularly produces. Both Fred Fletcher (President) and Ray Ahuja (Chairman) have remained loyal to those same customers as well and will remain "hands-on" for several months to come. Their founding premise and their ongoing approach to customer loyalty and satisfaction are a couple of the many reasons Dameron was attracted to PMI. It is easy to respect their accomplishments and how they have taken complete care of their customers' needs. The goal of the new company will be nothing less than to continue with that legacy.

Already knowing this as a shared and clear goal of both companies, Fred Fletcher said after his visit to Dameron, "I was very impressed with Mr. Jack Dameron and his staff and I knew that Dameron was the perfect place for PMI to be." Fred also noted that the PMI operation is running better now than ever before. Jack was equally impressed with Fred and during their meeting told him that he respected both him and the

PMI staff for their accomplishments and their solid customer orientation. He went on to say that his personal goal is to see both companies work together in a professional and friendly manner and that he, Fred and all staff members continue that friendship into the future.

In addition to these shared philosophies, the combining of the two companies creates a greater force to better deal with the high manufacturing costs in the industry including workers

compensation, health insurance, utilities, etc. The coming together of PMI and Dameron will allow the company to become more efficient and help hold down the rising high cost of doing business.

As was the case in Dameron's previous acquisition of True-cast, Inc. in the spring of 2002, this acquisition serves as an asset builder for Dameron. One of those assets is the casting markets served by PMI that include:

Aircraft pump and valve, Medical implant/instrument and Defense market sectors. Dameron already serves a number of these markets, while others bring new opportunities for the company. These markets and the ability to provide limited vacuum poured alloys as well as vacuum heat-treated alloys

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Precision MicroCast, Inc. – Ventura, CA

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Castings From Mexico

On Thursday, May 27, 2004, in the company's new DafMex foundry operation in Mexicali, Mexico, Dameron Alloy Foundries poured the first production metal heat into molds that were produced at the foundry. DafMex was instantly more than just a name. At that moment, it became a completely self-contained production foundry facility capable of making quality castings for its customers.

Since that day and at this writing, DafMex has poured several hundred heats. (See photo of pouring floor.) While most of those heats have been in 300 series stainless steel, they have begun to develop the process for pouring the original HR Series Alloys that were invented by Dameron and are used widely as a standard material in the glass container industry world-wide.

From the first day that Dameron began putting this operation together to the successful pouring of the first heat, the combined team effort of all involved has truly been an amazing undertaking. The team, headed by Vice President/Operations, Jeff Milucky and Plant Manager, Oscar Espinosa, handled every issue involved with the construction of the operation. As stated so well by John Dameron, "this team has accepted the challenges and responsibilities associated with this huge undertaking and completed them on schedule and without compromise. I am very proud of each one of the core staff members and the entire work force for their individual part and combined effort in this project."

Castings are being shipped to the USA to the company's corporate foundry operation in Compton, CA for any additional finishing requirements and/or machining. They are then final inspected, packaged and shipped to our customers. As time and processing allow, Dameron will transition more jobs from its other operations to DafMex as needed.

Incidentally, for those readers that might be wondering what happened to the castings from the first production pour, they were cleaned, inspected and transported to Compton and eventually shipped to the customer. They are now in the field performing superbly...as is the case with all Dameron's castings. 🏆



LtoR, Jeff Milucky, Gabe Fernandez, Oscar Espinosa, Genaro Arevalo and Jorge Macias pouring off a metal heat.

Buying Direct From Asia

An Update on Dameron's China Operation

In late 2001, Dameron entered into a joint-venture agreement with Strong-Metals, an investment-casting foundry in China. This agreement allows Dameron to complement their existing foundry and machining capabilities with the same economic services from this new Chinese operation.

Traditional direct customer exposure to offshore foundries has many times left the customer with questionable supplier reliability and quality, inconsistent and long lead times, and a vivid reminder of the "real cost" of doing business in Asia. Additionally, the language barrier and time zone disadvantages make the logistics involved seemingly insurmountable.

The business model developed by Dameron's corporate office and their sales/marketing staff for this joint-venture places Dameron in a unique position allowing them to evaluate the needs of the customer and the attributes of individual jobs. In specific situations (part design, material, volumes, lead times, etc.), Dameron can extend the services of its China operation and the cost advantages associated with it



LtoR, John Yew and Jeff Milucky

to its customers without exposing them to the "real costs" that frequently, if not always, are associated with offshore sourcing in Asia. These costs can easily exceed \$135,000 for a staff position and related travel expenditures per year. Additionally, there can be several thousands of dollars spent on freight forwarding, cartage, domestic freight, brokerage, harbor maintenance and bonding fees as well as other hidden handling costs. Total annual expenditures can easily top the \$200,000 mark.

By not having to compensate with staff additions stateside for salary, supplier visits, freight costs, customs, duties, taxes, etc, our customers have allowed Dameron to handle these items and absorb the risks and, more importantly, many of the costs as well as the logistical issues for their customer.

The Dameron – Strong-Metals agreement has been in full swing and production volumes have been received states side for nearly two (2) years. Please ask any of Dameron's customer service or sales staff individuals if this is available for your product line. 🏆

This Is Dave Hubbard

Plant Manager—Dafco Foundry



It is with great pleasure that Dameron introduces Dave Hubbard. Dave is by no means a recent addition to our staff. He has been with the Dameron organization since the acquisition of his company (Truecast, Inc.) back in March 2002. We were finally able to get him to stay put in his office for a few minutes for this photo and a short discussion. It took numerous photo shots to

get one that was in focus, as he just won't sit still. Something we have learned is a trademark of Dave.

Following graduation in 1983 from Purdue University with a Degree in Mechanical Engineering, Dave began his business career in January 1984 with the Vermont American Corp. in their engineering group as a machine designer. Even though there were only two IBM PCs on site, Dave took a keen interest in this area and soon became involved in computer programming in CNC mills and in generating tool paths for investment casting tooling. That was his first exposure to the investment casting process and the industry at large.

Over time, Dave's desire to learn and expand his responsibilities led him to becoming more and more involved with investment castings through exposure to Vermont America's Auburn casting division. However, by the late 1980s, the company ownership had changed from family run to corporate controlled and Dave felt the need to move on.

The opportunity to purchase a partnership interest in Truecast arose and Dave took it in 1993. His arrival at Truecast was immediately and positively realized through his leadership, manufacturing and customer care abilities. Truecast continued to grow in sales over the next decade. Following a fire in 1995 that destroyed the plant and the relocation of the operation to the Riverport Industrial Park in 1996, Dameron/Dafco acquired Truecast in the spring of 2002.

It was a short walk across the parking lot to his new office at Dafco and Dave didn't miss a step or a beat with this new adventure. He hit the floor running and hasn't stopped since. As plant manager of Dafco, his responsibilities include, but are not limited to, production, manufacturing, rapid proto-typing, 1st articles, design of new products, R & D and of course, customer service/support. The latter is one of Dave's passions and it is evident through the many positive comments received from customers.

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Good Bye To A Good Friend

A heart-felt farewell from Mr. Jack Dameron



Louise Crookshanks

My wife Dorothy and I started our business in 1946. Until 1954 she did all of the office tasks. In mid 1954 we learned that, after nearly a dozen years of marriage, we were about to become parents. It was time to make a change.

Louise Crookshanks took over Dorothy's office duties on October 14, 1954. She knew that her employment might be temporary, depending on how motherhood might impact my wife's time.

Forty-four years later Louise voluntarily terminated her "temporary" employment. Her capabilities and responsibilities grew as the company grew. She accepted changes and was a master at being the first to make them work.

Mid afternoon of last Easter Sunday I visited Louise at her home. Her health had been deteriorating for some time. We had a great visit. I briefed her on what was going on with the company. She was interested, gracious and perceptive. When it came time to leave I held her hand and kissed her good night. She was pretty weak, but she gave my hand an extra squeeze. After we left she lay down to rest and passed away a short time later.

She left her Dameron "family" and countless other friends. All of us loved her, appreciated her, and were deeply enriched for having known her. We all miss her. We will never forget her.

Thank you, Lou.

Mr. D

We Fill Your Needs

DAMERON ANNOUNCEMENTS

Births to Dameron Employees

Jordan Alenjandro Cruz Rios – Born to Carlos Rios-Bravo and Guadalupe Cruz. Birthday: May 31, 2004 – 7 lbs., 7 ozs., 20" long

Specials



Sergio Navarro
25 year
Service Award
-April 1, 2004'
*Sergio shown with
John Dameron,
Jeff Minucky and
Mr. Jack Dameron
(left to right)*

— Special Editors Note —

Not shown in the photo on page two (Castings from Mexico) is Mapy Villa. An important part of the initial start up of DafMex, Mapy took ill and returned to the states for surgery. While not present for the photo, she is now back to work at DafMex performing her many duties. Welcome back Mapy. You were missed!



THIS IS DAVE HUBBARD – cont. from pg. 3

Another of Dave's passions is his family. Together with his wife Monika of 15 years, they are raising two sons – Christopher age 9 and Sean age 7. Keeping up with the boys' activities in soccer, baseball, football, basketball and their school fills both Monika's and Dave's private schedule. If there is any time left over, Dave will try and grab a round of golf or a tennis match. No wonder it took so many photo takes to get a clear picture – this guy never stops moving. 🏠

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offer a new customer base for Dameron that will be expanded over the coming months and years.

Additionally, the PMI acquisition also allows for utilization of their "in-house" NDT equipment that includes magnetic particle, dye penetrant inspection facilities as well as radiographic inspection. Customer required certification of NDT inspections will continue to be provided by accredited outside sources.

Another of the key assets that come with the acquisition is the employees of the PMI organization. Each individual has been key to the company's success in helping make PMI a recognizable name in the foundry industry. They will play an important part in the transition period over the coming months.

Dameron is extremely enthused and excited about the PMI acquisition in that it most assuredly complements the corporate efforts of the company. This acquisition makes for a stronger, more diversified Dameron operation and it is a huge step in Dameron's continuous improvement and development of the QA/QC programs within the company. The addition of PMI product line enhances Dameron's ongoing commitment to be among "the best in the world" at providing a superior casting that meets our customers' total quality requirements.

From the customer focused goals defined by Messrs. Jack Dameron and Fred Fletcher, the newly combined operating force of Dafco, Daftec, China, Truecast, Dafmex and now Precision MicroCast, Dameron Alloy Foundries provides a uniquely structured, multi-national organization. Dameron stands ready to meet customer needs, whether those needs are for a casting or a machined part in any size, configuration or quantity for ultimate service in a wide variety of industries including aerospace, defense, medical and commercial valve and pump.

The company has achieved outstanding success over the past several years and this most recent acquisition will only enhance that position and complement the direction the Dameron Corporation is heading in 2005 and beyond.

At your earliest convenience, please contact anyone in our sales or customer service departments to learn more about Dameron's enhanced facility capabilities. 🏠



Dameron has updated and improved its website. Please visit us at:
www.dameron.net
And you will see how...
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