

Connecticut Spring & Stamping and Minster: Building a Future Together.

Early in 1940, Bert Youmans began a small company specializing in making springs. His dream: "to be the best springmaker in the industry." Soon Connecticut Spring & Stamping Corporation, of Farmington, CT, earned the reputation as being one of the industry's most dependable, innovative, and honest springmakers in the nation. And 53 years later, Bert's son, Pete, carries on the legacy.

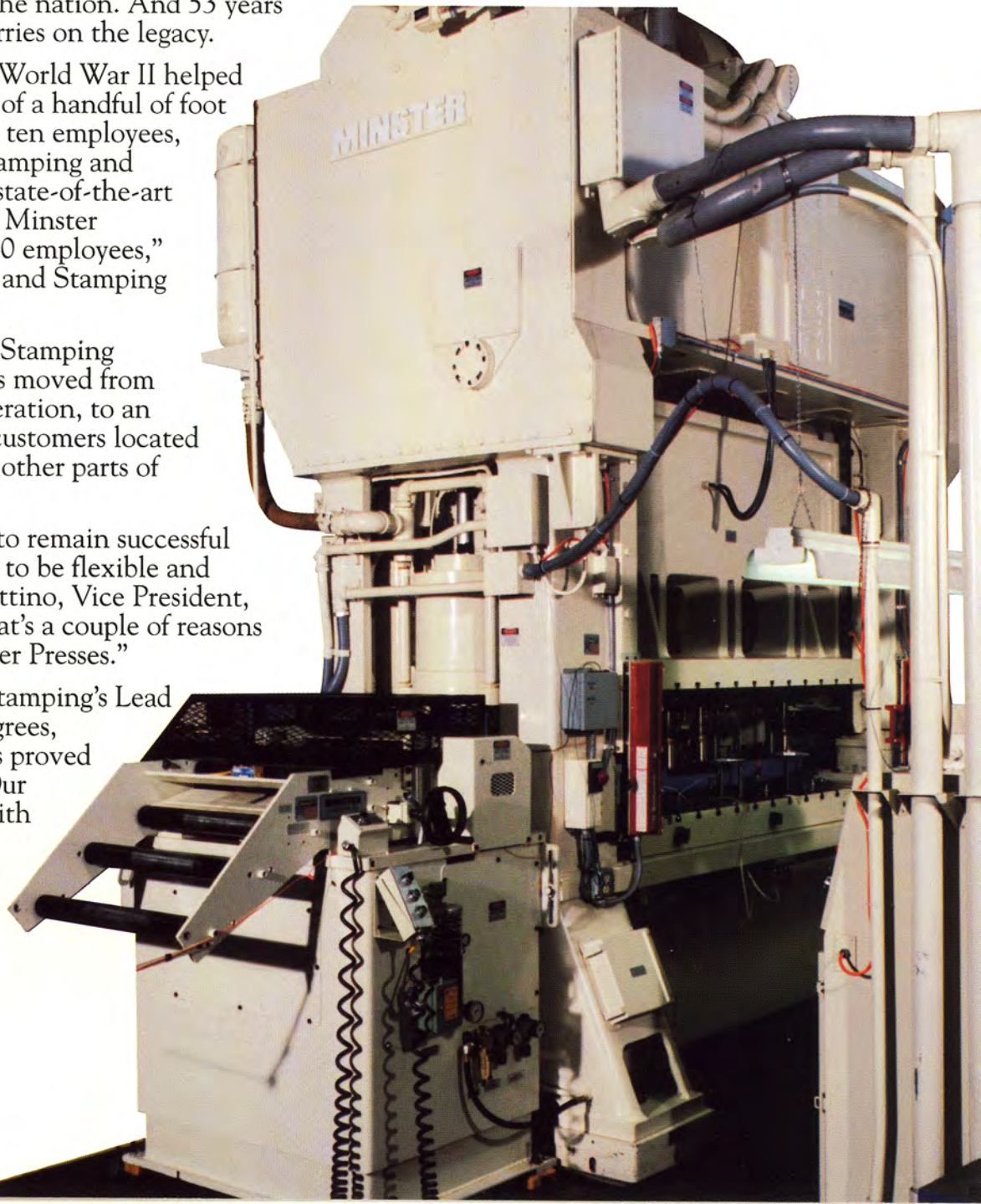
"My father's insight and World War II helped us grow from a company of a handful of foot presses, three coilers and ten employees, to a diversified spring, stamping and assembly company with state-of-the-art equipment, including 15 Minster automatic presses and 450 employees," said Connecticut Spring and Stamping CEO Peter Youmans.

Connecticut Spring and Stamping Corporation's growth has moved from being just a domestic operation, to an international one, with customers located in the U.S., Europe, and other parts of the world.

"Our growth and ability to remain successful depends upon our ability to be flexible and responsive," says Ron Bottino, Vice President, Stamping Division. "That's a couple of reasons why we work with Minster Presses."

Connecticut Spring & Stamping's Lead Person Brian Williams agrees, "Minster's machinery has proved to be very dependable. Our down time is minimal, with very few mechanical problems."

E2-300 press and Minster Automation Electric Feed have helped Connecticut Spring & Stamping expand their capabilities.



Brian emphasizes that repeatability, feed accuracy, and dependability are three of the most critical performance factors for which he judges a progressive die press. He is also impressed with Minster's contemporary features.

"The Minsters are accurate, versatile, and extremely user-friendly," says Brian. "Often we'll run a die on one press then move it to another press without affecting our product. You can't do that on just any machine."

He added that down time is loss of time, money, and customer satisfaction. "And when you want to remain at the top of the industry, you can't afford any down time." Brian compliments Minster on their prompt and knowledgeable service department. Although Connecticut Spring & Stamping rarely has problems with their Minster Presses, help is only a phone call away.

Connecticut Spring & Stamping has presses ranging from a 45-ton OBI to a 300-ton straight side. Two of their newest presses include the P2H-100 and the E2-300, which have proved to be beneficial in job situations that were previously challenging. All their equipment is utilized with the same premise: to move forward keeping that competitive edge while satisfying their customers' needs.

Spearheaded by the company's third-generation of management, Andy Youmans, Connecticut Spring & Stamping recently received ISO 9001, Version 1987, Certification. ISO 9001 is a highly regarded quality systems standard that originated in Europe and is now being actively sought after by many of America's most progressive companies.

Through company wide team effort, Connecticut Spring & Stamping achieved certification in only seven months. The average certification is eighteen months to two years. This fact is even more impressive when you consider that 80% of the companies seeking certification fail on their first attempt.

Andy comments, "By improving our Cost of Quality through adherence to the ISO 9001 standard, we have been able to recapture a substantial amount of time, energy, and money lost finding, repairing or replacing defective product."

Connecticut Spring & Stamping continues to streamline and upgrade their operation by focusing on quick die changes, increasing their run efficiency, and reducing human error. They are also upgrading to programmable servo-feeds as well as improving their die protection.

"We have to remain the best one-stop shop for our international and domestic customers," says Ron Bottino. "That means we have to be equipped to meet their needs." Connecticut Spring & Stamping looks to the future and

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Ron Bottino
Vice President, Stamping Division
Connecticut Spring & Stamping
Corporation

Minster for some of that guidance. The company also puts a lot of energy back into itself through employee education programs.

"We want to continue to produce a high-quality product in the most efficient means possible. Simply put, we need dependable, up-to-date equipment that can make what was once impossible to create—a consistently superior product for our customers," says Ron.



Connecticut Spring & Stamping Corporation's latest press addition is a Minster P2H-100, high speed precision straight side. Their press capacity has grown from a few foot presses to over 15 straight sides, with more to come.

