

# THE GOLD STANDARD

#### CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP.

This year marks the golden anniversary of VAC AERO - your global innovative materials solutions provider - an anniversary notable for the many advances we've made and continue to make for the growth of our business - and yours.

#### Service Excellence Is the Backbone of Our Reputation.

With seven plants on three continents, VAC AERO's global high-response service and support teams are always on call to provide direct assistance and expert advice to our clients around the world. At VAC AERO, we continue to evolve the most responsive customer care experience across the service spectrum. This unwavering commitment to "make things work for you" affirms our pledge to remain the best in the field.

#### Experience Isn't Expensive, It's Priceless.

For a half-century, VAC AERO has introduced many of the leading material processes and applications that have helped shape our industry. Today a new generation of specialists continue the trend, working diligently to resolve your advanced material processing needs. This proactive, goal-oriented, teamwork approach remains central to VAC AERO's success as a preferred equipment supplier, industry partner, and value-added subcontractor.

#### An On-side Partner You Can Trust.

One of the most important things we've learned along the way is that building solid relationships in business comes from consistently offering best-in-class products and services - "value for your money". We've also learned to value the fundamental trust you place in us to deliver the best the industry has to offer and to continue to improve those areas of our business that matter to you most.

So whether it's enhancing manufacturing technologies to newer standards or innovating new metallurgical processes through extensive R&D, VAC AERO's engineers, technologists, service and production personnel will continue to develop and deliver the products, technology and customer service you need to succeed...

/ac Aero

... Now, and fifty years from now.

1959 - 2009

SERVICE • EXPERIENCE • TRUST

# CELEBRATING

## Yesterday

Friday, November 6, 1959: Under the direction of Ross Pritchard the company opens for business as Canadian Vac-Hyd Processing Ltd., a subsidiary of Detroit, Michigan-based Vac-Hyd Processing Corporation. With two employees, the company provides atmosphere heat treating services to the local aerospace industry from a 2,500 ft<sup>2</sup> leased facility in Oakville, Ontario, Canada.

- 1963: The company builds a 6,500 ft<sup>2</sup> facility on the site of its current Oakville location. The workforce expands to 18 employees.
- 1967: The company opens a new 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility, headed by Jack Hooper, near Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**1968**: The Oakville plant expands its facility to 9,700 ft<sup>2</sup> and adds a salt bath heat treating capability. Workforce expands to 27 employees.

**1969:** The Montreal plant moves to a new 9,700 ft<sup>2</sup> facility and adds a plasma spray capability for use in repair processes for turbine engine components.

1971: The company's first vacuum furnace is installed in the Oakville plant.

**1974:** A second plant is built on the Oakville site to house the Furnace Manufacturing operations and a growing Turbine Component Overhaul business, increasing the total production space to 16,200 ft<sup>2</sup>.

1975: The parent company, Vac-Hyd Processing Corporation, is sold to a Dutch firm. The company begins offering its own line of furnace equipment. The Furnace Manufacturing Division sees rapid growth in the sales of its vacuum furnaces around the world along with new capabilities to provide technology transfer and training based on its commercial heat treating and brazing experience.

1976: The Montreal plant installs its first vacuum furnace.

**1978**: A group led by Ross Pritchard purchases Vac-Hyd Processing Corporation's interest in Canadian Vac-Hyd Processing Ltd. Shortly thereafter, the company's name is changed to VAC AERO International Inc. Since then, VAC AERO's performance is consistently strong, each new decade adding significantly to the company's growth.

**1979:** VAC AERO engineers design and build the company's first vacuum oil quench furnace, installed in the Oakville facility. The vacuum oil quench process becomes one of the most environmentally friendly methods for heat treating aircraft landing gear components.

1984 - 1990: The company continues to grow and now offers to a global customer base such diverse products and services as heat treating and brazing, furnace manufacturing, repair and overhaul of gas turbine engine components, electron beam welding, manufacture of precision brazed assemblies, CNC machining, and a variety of coating processes.

1990: VAC AERO builds and commissions the company's second vacuum oil quench furnace. The unit is the world's largest of its kind and uses state of the art control technology. By this time, VAC AERO has over 80 customer approvals for processing of aerospace components.

**1998**: VAC AERO installs a large bottom-loading high pressure gas quench furnace and begins an extensive research program with a local university to study high pressure gas quench phenomena. The company employs more than 100 people in over 70,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of production space.

2001: VAC AERO purchases a 35,000 ft<sup>2</sup> building in Boucherville, Quebec. The new site is used for a major expansion of the company's Thermal Spray Coating operations and soon employs more than 30 people.

50 YEARS

2002: In response to the increasing global demand for its products, the Furnace Manufacturing Division moves into a newly purchased 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility at 1339 Speers Road. A large gantry-style water quench furnace for heat treating titanium truck beams is installed in Plant 2.

2003: VAC AERO forms a new company, VAC AERO Kalisz Sp. z o.o., in Kalisz, Poland. This facility supplies heat treating and brazing, plasma spray and metallurgical laboratory services to the burgeoning aerospace industry in Poland.

2005: VAC AERO commissions its third and largest vacuum oil quench furnace. VAC AERO operates three of the world's largest vacuum oil quench furnaces, all designed and manufactured by the company's Furnace Manufacturing Division. The largest of these furnaces can process loads up to 72" in diameter by 126" high.

2006: VAC AERO forms a joint venture with Hightemp Furnaces in Bangalore, India. The company is known as Hightemp VAC AERO Pvt. Ltd. and offers thermal processing services and the manufacture of vacuum furnaces to the Indian market.

# Today

Today VAC AERO's seven plants on three continents employ more than 200 dedicated men and women who are focused on providing the best in specialized metallurgical products and services to a global customer base. To keep up with the growing demand for its advanced thermal processing technology, VAC AERO has begun construction of a fourth vacuum oil quench furnace for its Oakville heat treating operations. The new furnace will be operational before the end of 2009.

VAC AERO's Kalisz, Poland, operation has expanded its special processing capabilities for the heat treating and coating of gas turbine engine shafts. As part of the expansion, VAC AERO Kalisz has installed a new vertical vacuum furnace and coating equipment, as well as custom tooling for applying inorganic and plasma coatings. The company employs 64 people to handle increased production volumes resulting from the expansion in capabilities.

VAC AERO's Oakville Thermal Processing Division has undertaken a major re-organization effort to further improve production efficiency. The project includes building renovations for expansion of manufacturing space combined with equipment re-locations and new equipment additions to improve part flow and reduce turn-around times. The re-organization is scheduled for completion by the end of August 2009.

## **Beyond Today**

Thanks to increasing demand for aerospace-related heat treating and coating services, VAC AERO is now planning to open a 2nd service facility in Poland. The company plans to install two new horizontal vacuum furnaces, as well as a full range of new coating equipment and will be offering vacuum heat treating, brazing, inorganic paint, and cold and plasma spray coating services.



# "We SET the Gold Standard!



լեր

A flag raised on a pole to indicate the rallying point of a group of people. Something considered by general consent as a basis of comparison. A product that is widely recognized because of its excellence.

### A leadership tradition based on Service, Experience and Trust sets VAC AERO apart from the competition.

Service, experience, and trust - fifty years in the making. The golden history and inspired promise of a company tirelessly committed to excellence in everything we do for you.



"We've enjoyed working with VAC AERO for much of their 50-year history. They are forward-thinkers and an asset to our industry."

Doug Glenn, Publisher, Industrial Heating Magazine

#### We've Launched Our Newly Redesigned Website!

Come visit our redesigned and constantly growing website to get the latest updates on our vacuum furnace products and metallurgical services and to take advantage of a wealth of learning resources. Our website is updated with fresh content every week providing you with the most relevant and useful information you need for your business.

ERNATIONAL

#### Resources

- VAC AERO News, Education & Training
- Industrial Heating Magazine Articles
- "The Heat Treat Doctor" with Dan Herring
- "Vacuum Brazing" with Dan Kay
- Glossary of Metallurgical Terms

Call or email us today, and SET in place VAC AERO's "best-in-class" products and services and make our GOLD STANDARD yours!



Stay Informed of Current Industry **NEWS & INFO** 

Log on to our site and sign up for our monthly **What's Hot Newsletter**, and get the latest News & Advice from the Vacuum Heat Treating Experts.



Providing Engineering Excellence & Support in Furnace Manufacturing & Metallurgical Services since 1959 www.**VACAERO**.com **905 - 827- 4171** 



# **50 years** of **Innovative Materials Solutions**