

PENNSYLVANIA MANUFACTURING

Alive and Well



Post Precision Castings, Inc.
as featured in PENNSYLVANIA MANUFACTURING: ALIVE AND WELL

By James Mentzer



**Post Precision
Castings, Inc.**

POST PRECISION CASTINGS, INC. MARKS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Post Precision Castings, Inc., a leading manufacturer of precision castings using the investment casting process, has strong roots in the southeast corner of the Keystone State.

Although the investment casting process can trace its roots to an ancient method of detailed metal formation, the process became popular in industry during World War II, when jet engine production demanded superalloys and precise net shape manufacturing with little or no machining. Thereafter, investment castings made their way into other commercial industries that required complex metal parts.

John R. Post, president and founder of Post Precision Castings, started his career fresh out of college as a sales engineer in the mining and metals field. He eventually accepted a position as an alloy and carbide sales engineer for Union Carbide Corporation, but it wasn't long before he decided to start his own business. With an entrepreneurial drive and knowledge of investment castings, John R. Post founded Post Precision Castings in 1964.

When Post opened the doors of the first Post Precision Castings facility, he was in little more than a garage in Reading, Pennsylvania's fifth most populous city located halfway between Philadelphia and the state capital of Harrisburg. At that time, the world was still reeling from the assassination of John F. Kennedy six months earlier, a postage stamp cost a nickel, and the first Ford Mustang rolled off the assembly line.

Post quickly built the foundation for a successful precision casting business by offering quality products at a low price. The company's commercial

- Castings are removed from the assembly using automated abrasive cut-off machinery.
- Mold assemblies are coated with ceramic material as part of the mold-making process.
- A Melt Department employee removes hot molds from a preheated oven prior to pouring molten metal into the molds.



customer base grew, and soon Post Precision Castings had outgrown its airplane hangar at the Reading Regional Airport.

In 1972, Post strategically moved the business to Strausstown, Pennsylvania, a small borough in northern Berks County located off Interstate 78. Post Precision Casting's commitment to quality contributed to the company's continued growth. By the company's twenty-fifth anniversary in 1989, the business and facility had grown significantly.

Today, after celebrating its fiftieth anniversary in 2014, Post Precision Castings, Inc. encompasses a modern, well-maintained 125,000-square-foot facility that includes a high degree of automation, computerization, and support systems. The company has survived and prospered during a time of strong foreign competition and currently employs approximately 130 employees, many of which have been employed for thirty-plus years. Much of Post Precision's work is dedicated to producing commercial castings, as well as pressure vessel castings focused at the nuclear and gas industries.

John R. Post is proud of his record as a pioneer in the investment casting industry and counts himself one of a select few who still own and operate their business today. Vice President and General Manager Craig Thompson attributes much of the company's success to John Post and his team's constant, purpose-driven management style.

HR Manager Maryanne Post, Esq., a second-generation family member involved in the business, noted the company is recognized for the personal attention it provides to customers, and for its commitment to quality and constant improvement. "With full control of the production process, we can build the tool, manufacture the castings, and machine the castings all in one facility," she said. "We provide high-quality investment castings in one hundred alloy steel compositions, including stainless, alloy steels, superalloys, copper nickel alloys, gray iron, bronze, and numerous corrosion-resistant alloy steels," she continued. "We can produce between one and several thousand castings, as well as castings ranging in weight from one ounce to 250 pounds."

Half a century after its founding, US presidents have come and gone, postage stamps are inching their way to extinction, the Mustang has survived, and Post Precision has prospered. While Post Precision Castings, Inc. still remains in the Keystone State, the company's business now extends to every corner of the industrialized world.

Post Precision Castings is totally committed to quality—quality products, quality people, and a quality process. The company is currently ISO 9001 and PED-certified.

Production capabilities at Post Precision Castings, Inc. include: ceramic cores, soluble wax cores, automatic wax injection machines, robotic ceramic shell-building procedures, and automated grinding.

To learn more information about Post Precision, visit our website at PostPrecision.com.

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- ▲ • Owner and founder John R. Post discusses a casting with second-generation family member Maryanne F. Post, Esq.



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