

## AIAM MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Machining | Assembly | Metal Finishing



*Classic Metal Finishing | Jackson, MI*

*Sam Absher, Plant Manager*

[www.cmfpro.com](http://www.cmfpro.com)



Classic Metal Finishing (CMF) was established February 4th, 2008 after Eaton Corporation announced that they would no longer be anodizing parts in-house at their Jackson, Michigan facility. CMF owners, Scott Brockie and Brad Nall, saw an opportunity to fill this void for both themselves and the local aerospace supply base.

They had been running a CNC machining business for over 20 years and were now looking at the increased costs and lead times associated with outsourcing their machined parts. They started up CMF with five employees and aggressively pursued the certifications

(NADCAP, AS9100 and ISO 9001) required to do business in the aerospace industry. CMF initially offered aluminum anodizing and chemical conversion coating, stainless steel passivation, blast and dry/solid film lubrication.

The company has grown to 102 employees and has added titanium anodizing and phosphate conversion coating, custom masking, primer/paint and a full CNC machine shop. A state-of-the-art automated anodize line was added in 2018 that increased capacity by four times and now allows parts up to 78" in length to be processed for its growing customer base.

### TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

102

CMF is proud to serve over 100 companies in Michigan.

*CMF has customers in 12 states and 5 countries.*

### ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF YOUR COMPANY BEING LOCATED IN MICHIGAN

"CMF attributes much of its success to being located in central, Lower Michigan; because of the automotive industry based in the area, a lot of the infrastructure is in place. With the supply base, skill-level of employees and growth of the Aerospace industry, CMF is able to thrive."

### GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

"To continue to invest in new processes to support our current customers and to pursue prime customer approval to be able to support and continue the growth with the rest of Michigan's aerospace business."

### WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DO YOU SEE EXIST IN MICHIGAN FOR THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY?

"The aerospace business is strong in Michigan and is continuing to grow and with that growth, there will need to be workers and suppliers that will need to be ready to support and sustain this."

### AS AN AIAM MEMBER, WHAT DO YOU SEE AS SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES FACING MICHIGAN AND THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY?

"The biggest challenge for companies looking to get into Aerospace, for those already involved, is getting their foot in the next door and having the chance to prove themselves as a supplier."

### HOW DOES THE AEROSPACE ASPECT OF YOUR BUSINESS BENEFIT FROM THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY IN MICHIGAN?

"Michigan workforce has always taken pride in the work they have done in the automotive industry and that has carried over into the aerospace industry. We are able to respond quickly to customer needs due to the response time of our suppliers. The automotive industry has built a supply base to react quickly and with that, we are able to respond to customer needs within a few hours instead of days."

### INTERESTING FACT ABOUT CLASSIC METAL FINISHING

"CMF is a vertically integrated, one-stop-shop. We can machine, metal finish, assemble and mark a job complete for any customer. This reduces cost, lead-time and helps to control the quality of the finished product."