AIAM MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Ingersoll CM Systems | Midland, MI Brian Kennedy, General Manager Rick Miller, Business Development www.ingersollcmsystems.com

Ingersoll CM Systems was founded in 1970 as a sales and design group for Crankshaft Machine Company of Jackson, MI. For nearly all of the company's history, we have developed world-class, special machine tools for crankshaft and camshaft production.

The company grew into, and continues to be, a full-service machine tool company with in-house R&D, design engineering, assembly, project management, and service capabilities. We have a global customer base with machines delivered to North America, Asia, Europe, and Africa.

Beginning in 2016, we committed to a diversification plan that would take us beyond our small niche and narrow product line. Today we continue to build on our new model of providing Innovative and Cost-Effective Manufacturing Solutions (a play on the companies initials, ICMS).

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Along with continuing to provide world-class machines and services for our internal combustion engine customers, we are now providing products and services to multiple industries including, Automotive Component Manufacturing, Aerospace, Electric Motor Manufacturing, and the Engine and Turbine market.



ICMS is located in Midland, MI with a sister company, Ingersoll Production Systems, in Rockford, IL

ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF YOUR COMPANY BEING LOCATED IN MICHIGAN

Close proximity to several major colleges,

- Excellent vendor base for supplying needed compnents,
- Good airport infrastructure to handle international travel,
- Talent acquisition has been dificult due to the reemergence of manufacturing and the overal strength of the labor market.

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

"Successfully diversifying after nearly 50 years of defining ourselves as a provider of products and services for a small niche in the internal combustion engine market. (Change is difficult, reinvention is hard!)."

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

"The most obvious opportunity is leveraging the automotive supply chain. Automotive OEMs have always "encouraged" the supply chain to identify cost reduction, product and process innovation, and efficiency improvement opportunities.

Another opportunity is access to high-level talent. Michigan is home to highly rated universities in the areas of engineering, computer science, supply chain management, accounting, and education. Coupled with a strong work ethic and a re-emerging focus on skilled trades education, the workforce in Michigan is second to none."

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

"I feel the biggest hurdle we have is getting our State Government to understand just how big this industry is within our state. Then, once recognizing it, getting the state to back those companies trying to get a foothold within the aerospace industry.

Another challenge is tied directly to one of the noted opportunities. Although Michigan creates incredible talent, it also suffers from "talent flight." As part of the "rust belt," Michigan suffers from the impression of not being "high tech." Too many talented people are leaving the state to find what they consider to be better opportunities."