Unique Tool investing $4.7M in expansion

Company plans to add 57 new full-time positions over the next three years

Unique Tool & Manufacturing, located in Temperance, Michigan, is expanding its facility. The expansion project involves the addition of approximately 46,000 square feet to its existing 72,000 square foot facility, located on Reed Drive.

According to the company, the need for this expansion is to broaden capabilities and to expand into different markets – as well as offer more flexibility and growth in sales.

The total amount of investment in this project is estimated at $4.7 million. Doug Althaus, co-owner of Unique Tool, noted that the company is receiving a grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Company expands in Edgerton, adds 25 jobs

Edgerton Forge, Inc (EFI) is expanding its facility, which is located on East Morrison Street in Edgerton, Ohio.

This expansion project involves adding 16,000 square feet to EFI’s current 50,000 square foot facility.

“That is about a 30% increase,” stated Skip Dietrick, president and general manager of EFI.

EFI was acquired by AVIS Industrial Corporation, a global supplier, in 1985 and is currently one of AVIS’s 11 plants.

Southeastern Container adds BG capacity

Southeastern Container Inc. has recently transformed its Bowling Green facility with a major expansion. Southeastern Container is a privately-owned company under the ownership of a group of Coca-Cola Bottling companies. The company produces plastic PET bottles for Coca-Cola.

The transformation occurred after Southeastern Container closed its Beloit, Wisconsin production operations. Equipment from that facility was moved to the Bowling Green facility.
Unique Tool

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Corporation (MEDC) and “Bedford Township has offered property and personal tax abatements.”

Unique Tool is a stamping company, supplying stampings to the electrical, appliance, refrigeration, automotive, and communication industries throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The company, which was founded in 1963 and celebrated its 50th anniversary this year, offers a number of secondary services, including spot welding, robotic arc welding, brazing, plating, painting, heat treating, parts washing, de-burring, sub-assembly, final assembly, and packaging. Unique Tool is ISO 9001 certified with wire EDM and CNC machining centers.

The general contractor for the expansion project is Romanko Sales & Service, Inc., located in Sycamore, Ohio.

According to Althaus, Unique Tool chose this company as the contractor…Continued from page 1 because Romanko is an American Buildings Company (ABC) dealer. He noted that ABC is an ISO 14001 certified manufacturer that is “dedicated to protecting our environment and reducing waste.”

“As part of the Nucor Buildings Group, ABC building materials contain an average of 91.4% of recycled content,” Althaus advised.

The addition will have 42-foot high walls with 32 large wall windows for natural light purposes. Althaus noted that when natural lighting is not available, T8 lighting fixtures will be used that could reduce power consumption by 40%.

According to Althaus, new equipment and technology will be added – including a servo-mechanical transfer system, and an 800-ton and 1,400-ton Verson press.

“Our presses range from 50-ton to 1,400-ton that can run single-operation or progressive dies, transfer system, flat or deep-drawn parts from hot-rolled, cold-rolled, and galvanized carbon sheet to aluminum and brass,” Althaus stated.

He noted the building will also include a 15-ton crane system and a 10-ton crane system.

The expansion is expected to create approximately 57 new full-time positions over the next three years, according to Althaus. He noted that the company currently employs around 20 people.

According to Althaus, construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.