With the addition of two new Leadwell CNC machining centers to its CNC Machining Division, an MV-40 and MV-50 unit, Chicago White Metal has increased its number of centers to 27, V.P. Brian Andrews announced.

The new Leadwells, in addition to further expanding CWM’s capability for higher speed output and precision, enable still larger parts and more efficient multiple operations to be programmed. A wider range of prototyping, dedicated machining and post-casting machining can be performed in house.

CWM’s new Leadwell MV-50 CNC Center offers highest RPM spindle speeds plus greater operational flexibility and precision.

MV-50 fixture bed offers extra large area for multiple operations.

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CWM Launches All-Out “Green Facilities” Program

Building on its ISO 14001 environmental certification commitments, CWM is launching an expanded program of “Green Facilities Initiatives” to further reduce its ecological footprint in its offices & production facilities.

Targeting landfill avoidance, waterways improvement and energy conservation, this program will further enhance CWM activities in recycling production scrap, plastic shrink film, pallets, batteries, packaging containers, corrugated material, office paper, and in reducing chemical & process water usage.

NADCA Cites CWM for ‘07 Outstanding Safety Record

Chicago White Metal Casting was cited as a 2007 winner of the North American Die Casting Association’s prestigious Outstanding Safety Award, one of a select group of corporate members so named.

The award recognizes die casting industry companies that have met or exceeded industry criteria for operating a safe working environment for their employees, specifically total operations whose reportable injury or illness level was below the national average of 7.0 for all manufacturing companies.

OEMs Can Go Greener Spec’ing Die Cast Parts

Today manufacturers of a wide range of new or redesigned functional products are weighing the benefits of specifying “greener” products and processes.

With the widespread use of molded plastic housings and components, this now often means giving the die cast alternative to the design of plastic parts a second look.

Job 1: The Cost/Performance Choice

Obviously, component performance has to be the first requirement on the OEM design engineer’s list: which material and production process will do the job required?

Where higher strength and performance are not critical factors, cheaper plastics are commonly selected. For many products, however, thin-wall die castings can be very cost-effective. When impact strength and lightweight are important, magnesium die castings can prove superior to premium molded plastics with high-strength fillers added, at comparable costs. Polymer engineers agree that adding any form of filler will always have some detrimental effect on a plastic.

And die casting offers benefits similar to plastic molding in allowing part consolidation in designs for lower assembly costs.

Die Casting vs Plastic: The Greenest?

Die castings are the clear choice for lessening the impact on the earth’s environment.

Virtually all commercial and industrial die castings are produced from recycled, and further recyclable, Al, Mg & Zn alloy. A long-established recycling infrastructure serves the die casting industry, still a distant dream for molded plastics. Unlike certified recycled die casting alloy, recycled plastics cannot claim the strength of the original material, thus limiting their use and making specification more difficult. The greener choice is not a difficult one.
These CWM employees have been honored as Employees of the Month.

**February '08: Maria Banas (1992)**
Maria provides superb support to the traffic, QA and machining depts. Her diverse skills provide valuable backup when others are out of the office. She excels in all her projects.

**March '08: Juan DeDios (2005)**
Juan’s responsibilities in the CNC department have greatly increased in the last few months. He proves his value to CWM in all his activities, whether providing appraisals or coaching operators.

**April ‘08: Ginny Alarcon (1996)**
Ginny, of the production planning team, uses skill, patience and determination in her departmental and supplier contacts, helping CWM meet its commitments to customers.

**May '08: Juan Santana (1981)**
Juan, production department member, has achieved and exceeded quality standards, as well as constantly developing his skills. His work is vital to CWM’s on-time delivery.

**June '08: Dave Crevie (1987)**
Tooling department member Dave Crevie uses his unique skills and experience to take ownership of new projects, often enabling CWM to do projects in-house which otherwise would be outsourced.

**July '08: Algie Crivens (1997)**
Algie is noted for providing expert, thoughtful analysis to issues in the QA department, particularly in the area of dimensional appraisal and process improvement.

**August ‘08: Perry Wright (1993)**
A member of the production department, Perry has shown eagerness to continually implement new procedures, monitor production results, and provide valuable feedback.

**September ‘08: Juvenal Silva (2005)**
His impeccable attention to detail, excellent on-time performance, positive attitude, and general professionalism are all praised by Juvenal’s teammates in CWM’s tool and die department.

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**Perfect Weather at CWM’s Annual Golf Outing**

The Bloomingdale Golf Club course was again in perfect condition for this 28th annual event, hosted by Chicago White Metal Casting for its suppliers, employees, friends and their families—with major management of the affair in its many details by Tom Mrock. A bit of wind added to the challenge for the 43 players who, with attending guests, enjoyed an evening dinner and special raffle.

The lowest score for the day, an 82, was posted by Harlan Krafft, of ASG Staffing.

Five $25 gift card “Closest-to-the-Pin” prizes were awarded as follows: Hole No. 6, Tom Schmitt, guest of Jeff Paul, 18 ft., 2 in.; Hole No. 9, Ken Mrock, guest of Tom Mrock, 5 ft., 3 in.; Hole No. 11, Jim Bong, guest of Jeff Paul, 8 ft., 4 in.; Hole No. 13, the Shot of the Day, Dan Weaver, guest of Fred Loots, 1 ft., 4 in.; and Hole No. 16, Harlan Krafft, ASG Staffing, 12 ft., 3 in.

Mike Dimitroff, V.P. Sales & Mktg., and his son, Daniel, handled the photography, presenting printed photos at day’s end.

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