



Internet Use Drives Lily Creek Industries Automotive & Defense Contracts for Machine Part Production

Russell Springs, KY- In 2004, Lily Creek Industries will process nearly four million machine parts for fuel injectors and other intricate machines through its facility in Russell County. Each part is accounted for by a barcode that is scanned and registered into a parts-tracking database unique to Lily Creek. The database is essential to the assembly production at the facility, tracking individual parts from arrival to departure.

In 1997, Lily Creek Industries, a subsidiary of S & S Tool and Machine Company was established in an effort to provide precision manufacturing. However, the distance between the Lily Creek and S & S Tool and Machine was problematic to both companies' daily operations. With more than 100 miles separating the locations, S & S Tool looked to high-speed Internet to decrease the remoteness of its two plants.

By integrating a gauge reading system with the access of Internet, Lily Creek Industries is now managed by Plant Manager Fred Connor in Russell Springs while General Manager Fred Siegel of S. S. Tool and Machine can supervise operations in Louisville. The network knows the status of almost every machine and is backed by expert software that helps optimize the machining process.

"Using the Internet, we are able to upload electronic gauging and manage the production," Siegel said. The gauges show a real-time perspective and display production rates to our corporate office. Essentially, Lily Creek production information can be uploaded and managed anywhere with high-speed Internet access while lowering managerial costs.

This real-time perspective is extremely beneficial for one of the Lily Creek's contracts which supplies emergency replacement parts for Blackhawk Helicopters. The immediate need requires efficient reaction time to the demand.

During the past six years, Lily Creek Industries has manufactured products for the U.S. Military, aerospace, heavy truck, fuel systems, navel sea systems and battery manufacturing industries. With numerous high-profile defense accounts, it is necessary that Lily Creek Industries continues to use the efficiency of high-speed Internet.

In June 2004, U.S. Senator Jim Bunning announced a Senate bill securing \$5 million for Lily Creek Industries. The contract with the Department of Defense enlists Lily Creek to manufacture mini compressors for personal cooling systems designed to assist military troops in hot climates. The suit, with the built-in compressor, will maintain a 70-degree temperature for up to five hours.

Lily Creek Industries' success continues to grow with every year. Jobs, once outsourced to Italy and South Korea, are now returning to the United States. The acquisition of a new contract with SKF Industries in Glasgow will provide Lily Creek with an expanded presence in the automotive industry and further diversify its customer base, adding to its expertise.

Lily Creek continues to focus on its technology needs within the business. The Internet is a vital piece of its technology equation and is an integral part of the process. It allows employees to transfer information from facility to facility, all on the same network, ensuring decision-making information is available to all employees.

According to IT Manager, George Klein, Lily Creek is continually implementing new open-source technologies to better serve their customers. One such example is a piece of software created by Darren Embry of Louisville that utilizes Linux to help reduce owner costs. "Using efficient database applications allow us to serve 1000 users as easily as 10 with our current system, making it a very scalable solution," Klein said.

About KY 120:

In the fast-paced world of technology-driven business, it should be recognized that best practices can be studied and emulated. As a part of the [connectkentucky](http://www.connectkentucky.org) initiative, CiTE (Center for Technology Enterprise) is profiling business initiatives in each of Kentucky's 120 counties. For more information visit our Web site at www.connectkentucky.org or call 270.781.4320.

Name:
Lily Creek Industries

Internet:
<http://www.lily-creek.com/>

Products/Services:
Precision part manufacturer

Location:
Russell Springs/Russell County

Leadership:
Charles Siegel, Jr., Owner
and Chief Executive Officer
Fred Siegel, General Manager
Fred Connor, Plant Manager

Employees: 55

Founded: 1997

Reach: International

Innovative Insight:
"Constantly upgrade information systems and equipment in order to stay competitive."

Way Internet Has Made You More Competitive: *"The Internet has simplified the daily operations of the business allowing us to focus on the needs of our customers."*

Advice to Growing Companies: *"Stay informed, plan carefully, and find talented individuals willing to take risks."*

Ways to Continue to Attract the Best Workers: *"Pick and choose the best employees and provide training, re-training and more training."*