

## **Plastic Products Corporation, Inc. - Lindstrom, MN**

Founder Willard “Smitty” Smith was a tool maker at Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M) in St Paul when he decided to venture out and form his own tool and die shop in Lindstrom, MN in 1957. He named it Smith Metal Products. To better serve his key customer, 3M, an injection molding press along with contract assembly of molded parts was added in 1962, thus giving birth to Plastic Products Company, Inc. (PPC). Several new customers and presses were added into the following decade.

Smitty died suddenly in 1975, and his wife, Marlene, then a bookkeeper at PPC, was tasked with taking over the struggling business. A mere two years after she took over, the company moved into a much larger facility in Lindstrom to expand its production and distribution areas. Business continued to flourish and in 1980, Plastic Products opened its second manufacturing facility in Princeton, MN. A large appliance customer announced in 1986 that it would be moving to Kentucky. Plastic Products opened its third facility in Lebanon, KY, to better serve this customer. Ten years later a second Kentucky facility was launched in Greenville to fulfill the need for even greater capacity in the region.

From 1997 through 2001, PPC opened plants in Greenfield, TN, Moline, IL, and West Branch, IA to meet expanding customer requirements. It also reestablished Smith Metal Products in 1997, now a custom metal and ceramic injection molding operation in the original building Smitty purchased in 1957. Since that time, Smith Metals has moved to a brand new 60,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility in the neighboring town of Center City.

In mid-2014, Plastic Products opened its ninth facility in Seneca, SC to expand services in the southeastern United States. On March 2, 2020, PPC completed an acquisition of 4Front Manufacturing in Phoenix, AZ. The addition of this facility provides the opportunity to serve a new geographic region for the company and expands capacity to support an existing customer in the area. There is also a recent Master Molding acquisition in Phoenix.

To learn more about Plastic Products Corporation, Inc, visit their [website](#).