

MID-AMERICA COMMERCE & INDUSTRY®

MAY, 2017



Photos, Top, L-R: I&M's Tom Leinen & Jon Barron with the BLM Lasertube LT8.10. Cheyenne Manufacturing's David Eckerman. One of two Haas UMC 750 5-axis machining centers at Creative Blow Mold Tooling. Bottom L-R: An operator at Mark Andy with a new SAMSUNG SL45. O&F Machine Products' Mike Cowen, Casey Pattyson & Cleetus Pattyson with a new CITIZEN A3-20 VII.

I&M Machine & Fabrication, St. Joseph, MO, Installs BLM Lasertube Fiber Laser
Cheyenne Manufacturing, Wichita, KS, Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Creative Blow Mold Tooling, Lee's Summit, MO, Installs 2nd Haas UMC 750 5-axis
Mark Andy, St. Louis, MO, Installs SAMSUNG SL45

O&F Machine Products, Joplin, MO, Installs 6th CITIZEN, a A3-20 VII

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Creative Blow Mold Tooling Installs 2nd Haas UMC 750 5-Axis Machining Center

Creative Blow Mold Tooling, Lee's Summit, Missouri, has installed its second Haas UMC 750 5-axis machining center. This greatly expands the company's capacity for custom machining.

The 33-year-old company has built a strong reputation in the blow mold industry for designing and producing molds for the bottle and packaging industries across the country. It focuses on collaborating with its customers and finding the best solution for their needs, not just meeting blueprint specs.

"We've invested in the engineering capacity required to add value to the customer relationship," said Jim Hensiek, director of business development. That strategy largely revolves around the strength of Creative's engineering team.

In addition to staying ahead of the curve with the number and expertise of engineers the company employs, Creative Blow Mold Tooling aims to stay on the cutting edge of technology.

"In order to meet customers' ever shrinking lead time requirements, Creative must also leverage technology to improve productivity and turnaround, that's where the 5-axis machines play an important role," noted Hensiek.

"The Haas equipment is an excellent fit for our mold manufacturing process. It's reliable and their service has met our needs," stated Creative's President, Michael Bohning. The firm has 22 pieces of Haas CNC equipment. Besides the two 5-axis machines it has four horizontal mills and 16 vertical mills.

Creative's first Haas UMC-750 5-axis machining center was purchased in the fall of 2015 to help improve the company's efficiency through reduced set-ups/set-up time. The results were immediate. As the company became more familiar with the new 5-axis machining center, including improved programming methods, the company



Above: One of two Haas UMC 750 5-axis machining centers at Creative.



Above: Two Haas VM3s at Creative Blow Mold Tooling.

began to realize a second UMC-750 was needed. In 2016 Creative made the decision to expand its production capabilities. This equipment investment included the purchase of two Haas VM3 vertical machines and the addition of a second Haas UMC-750 5-axis machining center. By adding a second 5-axis machining center, Creative has immediately reduced project setup time, increased accuracy, and reduced cycle time on those parts. "The versatility of the Haas UMC-750 allows us to pursue projects that are more complex, expanding our customer base, and meeting our customers shortened delivery times," stated Bohning. "We have an eye toward compressing lead times as much as we can."

The Haas UMC-750 Universal machining centers feature: 3+2 machining; 40-taper spindles; 30" x 20" x 20" travels; dual axis trunnion tables and 40+1 tool changers.

Investing in technology allows Creative to add value for customers that differentiate Creative from its competition. Better technology can reduce the time it takes to turn around a project which helps customers get their products to market faster which can boost their respective bottom lines.

Creative Blow Mold Tooling can be contacted at: (816) 525-4220; 2350 NE Independence Ave, Lee's Summit, Missouri 64064; www.creativeblowmold.com.



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