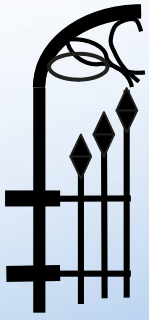
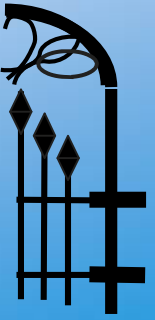


Purchasing's Gateway to New Sources



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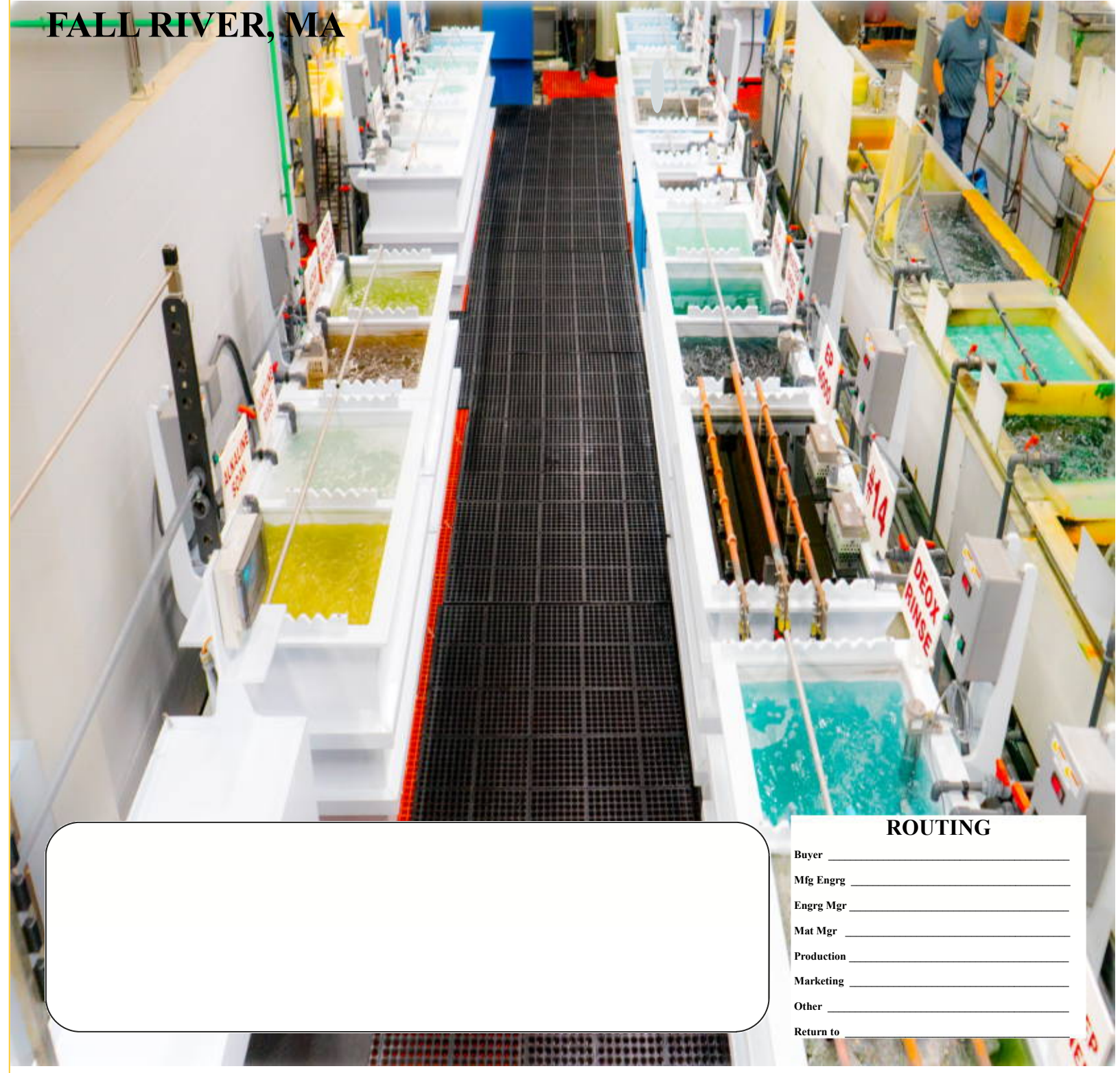


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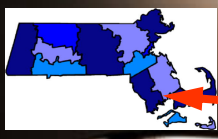
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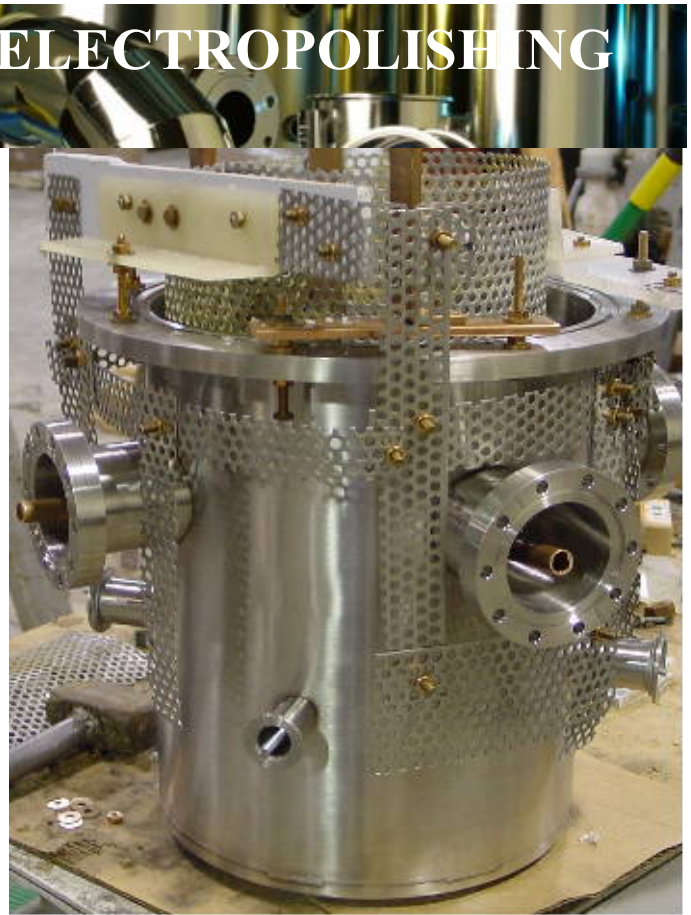




NEW ENGLAND ELECTROPOLISHING

Fall River, MA

New England Electropolishing was started in 1985 by Alvin Almeida and his wife Jeannine. Al was a sales manager at a chemical company in Rhode Island and sold Electropolishing chemicals to area platers. He recognized the need for an Electropolishing facility that specialized in finishing smaller parts. “At the time,” he says, “the established Electropolishing companies were focused on large vessels. If they had a request for smaller parts, they’d do them, but the quality was very low.”



A vessel racked with a custom NEE designed internal cathode, prior to processing.



From L-R Amy Almeida Prigmore, VP Finance, Alvin Almeida, President, Luke Almeida, VP Business Development

Siblings Amy Almeida Prigmore and Luke Almeida grew up working in the business and spent vacations and summers on the shop floor. Luke vividly remembers the company’s humble beginnings; “When we first started out,” says Luke, “our dining room served as an office, which consisted of an old typewriter and IBM computer. Customer Files and Accounts Payables were in our laundry room. I remember watching cartoons on Saturday mornings while filing invoices on the floor.”



Finished parts samples. NEE handles large and small parts from industries ranging from Medical, Semiconductor, Industrial, Marine, and Pharmaceutical.

Over time, the business grew as NEE became well-known for its quality, documented processes, and fast-turnaround of high-volume small parts as well as large weldments and fabrications. In 1995, NEE purchased its current 17,500 square foot building at 220 Shove Street in Fall River, MA.

Today the company employs over 30 people and has remained a family owned and operated business with Amy serving

COVER PHOTO NEE recently completed the installation of a new processing area specifically designed for medical device applications. Included in this expansion are a new Electropolishing Line, Citric Acid Passivation Line, and Nitric Passivation Line. Also located in this processing area are Deionized Water Rinsing, Ultrasonic Cleaning, and Acid Pickle pre-cleaning.

Continued on page 7



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This worker performs a very important process of loading the parts onto electrical conductive racks. The connection has to be secure and not interfere with critical surfaces being treated.



Electropolisher loads a rack of parts into an Electropolishing tank. All jobs that are processed at NEE have documented work instructions listing all key processing and inspection variables.

as VP of Finance and Administration, and Luke serving as VP of Sales and Business Development.

What does NEE offer?

NEE offers Electropolishing and Passivation services on stainless steel parts and fabrications.

What is Electropolishing?

1. Electropolishing is often referred to as “reverse plating”. The process removes a thin layer of metal at a controlled rate. (add up to .0001” per surface precision)

- 2. Electropolishing deburrs the edges of stamped and formed stainless steel parts.
- 3. Electropolishing deeply passivates stainless steel and provides superior corrosion resistance.
- 4. Electropolishing produces a bright, reflective finish on many grades of stainless steel.

NEE provides an extensive list of FAQ on their informative website: <http://www.neelectropolishing.com/resources/electropolishing-basics/>



THE EXPERT EMPLOYEES AT NEW ENGLAND ELECTROPOLISHING

Continued on page 9



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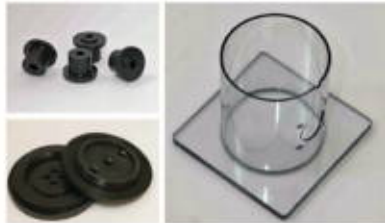
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What makes NEE stand out from other metal finishers?

NEE's focus is on one specific metal finishing process and has a great deal of capacity. They have 12 Electropolishing Lines in full operation to handle orders from 1 piece to 100,000 pieces. They have the ability to process 10,000 pc. orders every day while still offering 24 hour service to other customers.

Three or four days is the standard lead time for most orders. NEE electropolishes all sizes ranging from small machined medical parts to large fabrications in sizes up to 8' long x 4' wide

The material removal can be controlled to .0001" (per surface) and they can perform quality control verification by measurement when required, assuring consistent removal on all parts.

When a new part comes in with special needs they can adapt tooling or quickly develop racking to handle the process in house.

They serve an extremely wide spectrum of customers from medical device, semiconductor, pharmaceutical, industrial, firearms, marine, food, architectural, as well as industrial.

NEE has an extremely experienced group of metal finishing experts. Many of their employees have over 15 years of experience in Electropolishing and metal finishing.

ElectroMatte

NEE has also developed a proprietary Electropolishing process called "ElectroMatte". ElectroMatte produces a matte or "dull" surface finish. It offers all the same benefits of traditional Electropolishing except it



Medical parts being tray packed by Connie Medeiros, Inspection Supervisor. NEE maintains packaging inventory for customers and can deliver finished packaged parts.



A large weldment is inspected prior to packaging. All parts go through an extensive incoming and outgoing process to ensure quality requirements are achieved.

subdues the reflective surface normally associated with Electropolished surfaces.

The process was developed in response to surgical market's request for a non reflective finish in the operating room. It has been implemented and approved successfully for major medical OEM's and suppliers.

Passivation Services

NEE also provides Passivation services through light Electropolishing, Nitric, and Citric Acid. Industry Standards for Passivation such as ASTM A967, AMS 2700, and others can be met through these processes. Luke is able to explain the various options and several



NEE installed a 210KW solar system in 2012 with over 700 panels on the facility roof. Additional upgrades include an LED Lighting conversion and a clean makeup air system.

Continued on page 11



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Certifications

NEE has been ISO 9001 Certified for over 20 years. We were one of the very first metal finishing shops in the country to pursue the certification. Two years ago, NEE acquired our ISO 13485 Certificate which focuses on medical device manufacturing.

Testimonies

Read what some of their customers say about NEE.
<http://www.neelectropolishing.com/about/testimonials/>

Final Words

New England Electropolishing is a true family run business. We are here every day and are committed to not only meeting but exceeding your expectations!



*Got questions? Need solutions?
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A GATEWAY EDUCATIONAL ENLIGHTENMENT ARTICLE

Subject: SURFACE FINISHING

How to get from raw product to finished parts!

Howard Products' role as a precision sheet metal fabrication shop located in Worcester Massachusetts is, often, to provide the customer with a 'finish ready' part. For a variety of reasons, including corrosion, surface defects, and 'final look', Howard Products must 'do' something to the surface of the piece.



That 'do something' most often involves surface finishing. In 2012, the company bought a Weber Surface Finisher. This machine, using planetary heads with brushes and grinding belts, not only removes 'burrs' or bits of metal left from shearing/punching operations but also 'sands' the surface preparing it for whatever 'finish' the customer requires, be it paint or plating, or coating. Why choose this type of machine?



This machine combines the flexibility of a 'simple' deburring mode to a more complex surface finisher involving revolving

planetary heads. These heads spin over the part as it is carried along on a conveyor belt. As the piece passes under the head, it is deburred. How much or how little material is removed depends upon the metal used, the grinding media, and the machine adjustment.

If simple deburring is needed, the specific metal and its gauge, are loaded into the machine. The speed, pressure and 'grit' are selected. The part is fed onto the conveyor belt with burrs on one end, and comes out the other, burr free.

If a 'surface' finish is required. The surface finish spec. is noted from the print along with the part material and gauge. Again, the information is fed into the machine, the appropriate belt installed, the part loaded, and out comes a part ready 'as is', or for paint, plating or coating.

For Howard Products, the advantage of this machine is its ability to deburr and surface finish concurrently: a time saving plus. Equipped with dust collection, drying capability and safety requirements, it is a 'standalone' alternative to labor intensive 'hand filing' or backstand grinding parts.



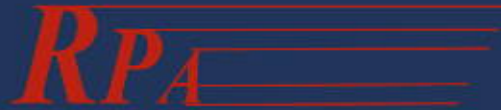
Our THANKS for this submission goes to:

Martha Hawley, Howard Products, Inc. 7 Brookfield St., Worcester, MA 508-757-2440

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- Put your best 0.3 of a meter forward.
- Spare the 5.03 meters and spoil the child.
- Peter Piper picked 8.8 liters of pickled peppers.
- Twenty-eight grams of prevention is worth 453 grams of cure.
- Give a man 2.5 centimeters and he'll take 1.06 kilometers.



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As I sat with fingers poised over the keyboard, Nancy's mother thought a minute, then responded, "How is Aunt Helen feeling?"

ONE-LINERS

- The only time I hit the panic button on my car keys is accidentally, and the only person who panics is me!
- Deep thoughts of the day: when you clean out a vacuum cleaner, you become a vacuum cleaner.
- Cat's motto: No matter what you've done wrong, always try to make it look like the dog did it.
- Being a vegetarian is a huge missed steak
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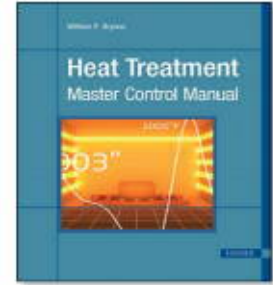


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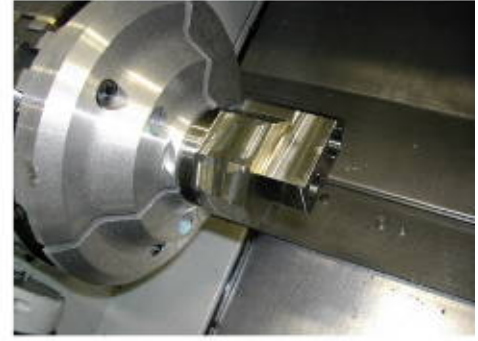
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