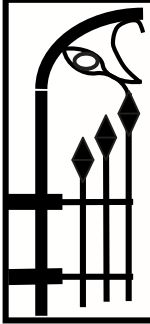
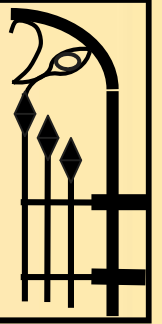


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UNIMETAL SURFACE FINISHING, LLC

Thomaston, CT

READERS: The Gateway is going to do something different in the next couple issues by departing from our usual Spotlight Feature Story. Instead we are going to do a series featuring UniMetal Surface Finishing, LLC, but with an educational slant to help procurement readers and job shop owners to gain an overview of metal finishing with UniMetal's expert input. This first installment will cover some of UniMetal's: History People Services Quality. Next month we will begin looking at the actual plating process and how it works.

UniMetal Surface Finishing LLC is a premier, full service, one stop shop, industrial / precision metal finishing company. Located in two facilities, Thomaston, (headquarters) and another in Naugatuck, Connecticut. Their combined operations exceeds 200,000 square feet making them one of the largest metal finishing companies in the northeast. This company has changed and continues to grow from its humble beginnings as far back as 1945. The president, George LaCapra, Jr., runs the company together with his father, George LaCapra, Sr.; who is the Chief Executive Officer and Pat Hayden, Senior VP - CTO.



Armand DeAngelis, Plating Supervisor, moving a typical plating cylinder on a large acid zinc automatic plating line. Normal output on this line is 1,000 lbs per hour



(left) Pat Hayden (Senior VP/CTO) and to the right is George LaCapra Jr. (President) leading the 130 strong employees.

Over numerous decades, UniMetal has evolved into more than just another metal finishing and plating company. They have grown into a **solution company**.

UniMetal is committed to providing world class quality products and service for all of their customers at competitive prices. How? They saw the industry need and developed methods that improve productivity and efficiencies through technical knowhow, better management of resources, and integrated with highly trained employees working together as a cohesive unit.

To this, they have developed a near foolproof UniMetal Quality Management System designed to both maintain, but more importantly provide, continuous

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Continued on Page7



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Copper Plating	Undercoats • Spec Plating • Final Finish
Deburring	Aluminum Oxide • Burr Removal • Dry Tumbling • Glass Bead Blast • Mass Finishing • Media • Polishing • Radius Forming • Rem Process • Surface Finishing • Vibratory
Nickel Plating	Barrel • Bright • Ductile • Electroless Nickel (Hi Phos) • Electroless Nickel (Mid Phos) • Nickel Strike • Sulfamate / Dull
Oxides and Phosphates	Black Oxide • Black Phosphate • Federal Specification • Military Specification • Oils • Specifications (TT-Q-171) • Waxes • Zinc Phosphate
Passivation	300 Series • 400 Series • ASTM Specification • Citric Acid • Medical Passivate • Military Specification • Nitric Acid • QQ-P-35C
Precious Metals	Bright Silver • Gold 22 kt. • Matte Silver • Semi Bright Silver • Spec Gold • Spec Silver
Reel to Reel Plating	Bright Tin • Cleaning • Copper • Gold (Selective) • Matte Tin • Nickel • Palladium Nickel (Selective) • Passivation
Testing	Black Light • Copper Sulfate • Dynes • Eddy Current • Gravimetric • Particulate • Salt Spray • Stress Corrosion • Surface Finish • XRF Thickness Readings
Tin Plating	Barrel • Bright • Matte / Dull
Tri-Metal	Albaloy • Miralloy • White Bronze

improvement to their processes. All this while designed to meet and exceed international ISO 9001:2000 and Nadcap standards.

UniMetal's seasoned staff of engineers, chemists, supervisors/ managers and 130 employees continually search and develop means to improve their processes while delivering superior products to their customers.

To accomplish this, they have established strategic partners with world class suppliers from around the globe. This winning approach to business gives UniMetal's customers not only the most diverse metal finishing company in the Northeast, but a team to turn your toughest challenges into the strongest solutions.



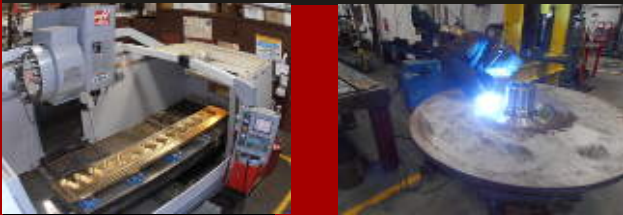
UniMetal's vibratory deburr department. Horizontal rotary and small to large vibratory bowls handle various size parts. Inventory stocks the correct media required to remove burrs on both outside and inside of parts.

Continued on page 9



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Aida Poventud, Director of Quality is performing a plating thickness measurement. With this X-ray Fluorescence machine she can also identify multiple thickness levels of multiple under coats such as gold and nickel over a copper flash base.

The forward thinking, innovative minds that make up UniMetal have demonstrated that they can rise to meet the ever changing and challenging needs in the metal finishing world. What really makes Unimetal unique, is UniMetal's ability to take a project and make it turnkey. From cleaning, deburring, to industrial or precious metal plating, they have proven themselves to be a **world class company** and a leader in their industry. From cleaning, deburring, passivation zinc, nickel, tin, copper and alloy coatings to precious metal gold and silver, UniMetal offers a wide array of metal finishing capabilities. UniMetal's capacities will meet your high volume to small lot orders for cleaning, deburring, barrel, reel to reel and short run rack plating requirements. UniMetal has your metal finishing needs covered from start to finish, literally.

WHAT IS METAL FINISHING?

The definition is almost endless. It is not just a plating, or coated surfaces on metal. It may not even involve plating or any other type of applied surface modification.

To UniMetal it is often just....

....Cleaning parts. Complete removal of lubrications is a difficult process. Even the human fingerprint can contain chemicals that can etch, or contaminate the metal surfaces. Using ultrasonics, vapor degreasing, medical quality cleaning, high precision cleaning, passivation, etc. all require talented craftspeople with technical knowhow.

....Deburring. Requires tumbling parts, dry, or wet, mass, using the specific media, chemistries, polishing, glass beading, hidden burr removal, etc.

.... Metal removal. Part size correction on critical part is offered.

.... Surface finish by removal of oxidation, cosmetic



(l to r) Unimetal's Sales Team. George LaCapra, Jr., President, Michele Sovia, Director of Sales and Customer Service, Pat Hayden, Senior VP/CTO, and Jim Orsatti, VP Sales and Marketing.

improvement, coloration, chemical machining, acid wash are all metal finishing requirements they perform on a daily basis.

Jim Orsatti offered this as his input about what UniMetal offers:

“UniMetal pursues the highest standard of quality and is responsive to our customer’s requirements. With continuous improvement we can ensure that those requirements are consistently met. UniMetal’s focus on process improvements / procedures and efficiencies, fosters an organization capable of delivering products and services at a committed cost and quickest turn time. UniMetal just recently invested in a state-of-the-art ultrasonic vapor degreasing cleaning system which will improve efficiencies, produce far superior cleaned components, and increase productivity through short cycle times. It is UniMetal’s forward thinking culture, from top to bottom, that will sustain and promote our business for years to come.



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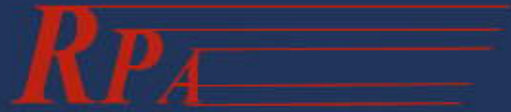
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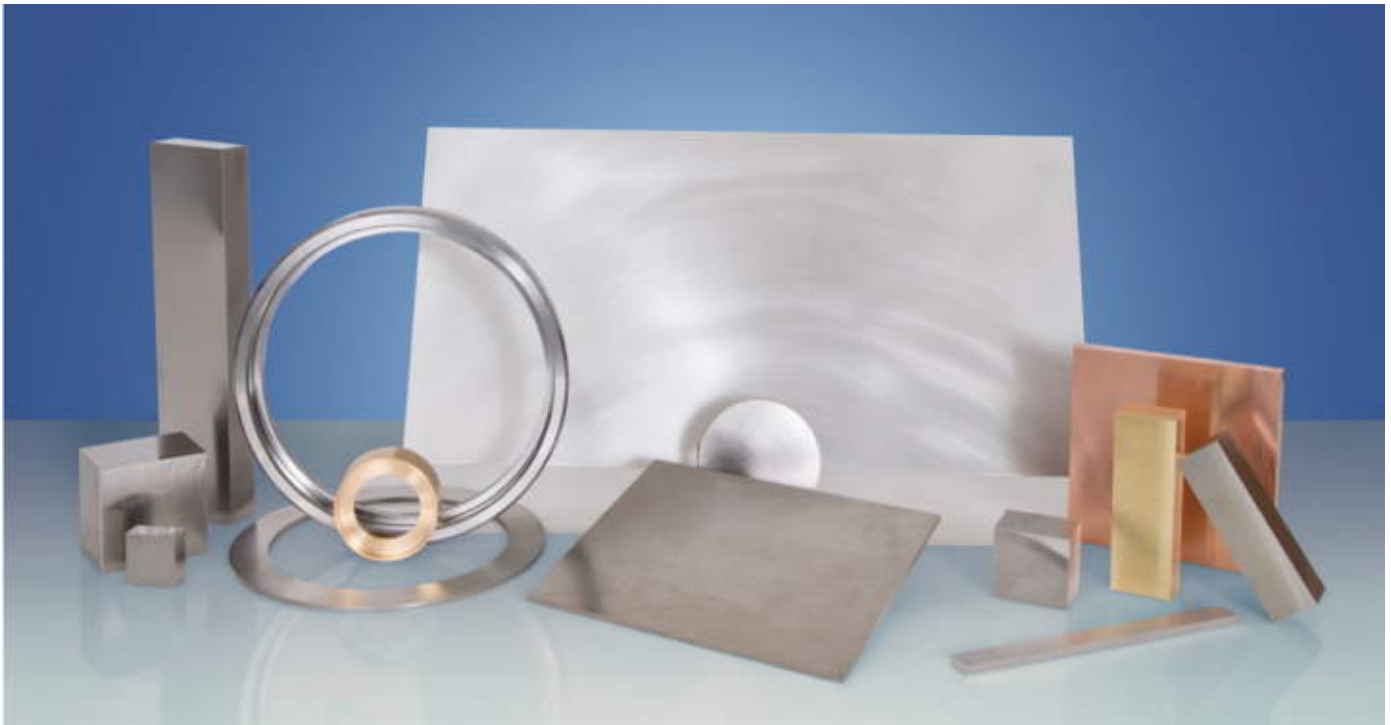
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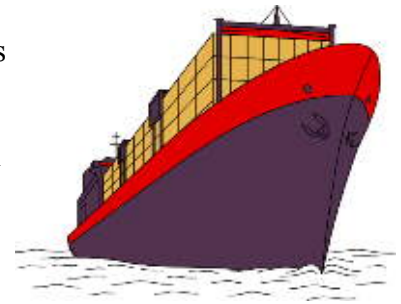
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Another outcome of this crisis is the surcharges being imposed on importers and exporters who use Hanjin, adding an additional burden to already soaring costs. A total of approximately 95% of the world's manufactured goods are carried on container ships, suggesting the possible reach of this crisis could be much bigger as the world watches long-term structural problems in the shipping industry surface.

It's feared the ripple effects will spread further into the global economy, with a reported \$14 billion worth of cargo stranded on Hanjin ships. While merchandise and product sit in containers on ships anchored outside of, or circling ports, companies face delayed orders, long lead times, and empty shelves. Others are considering new and costly shipment methods to retrieve goods, including Samsung, who said it might charter sixteen cargo planes in order to meet its shipment contracts.

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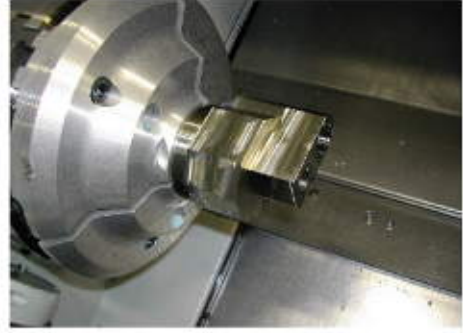
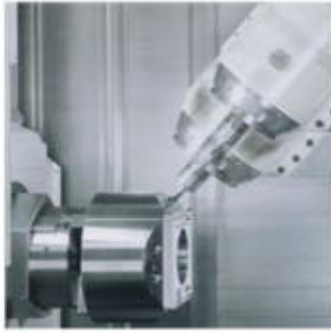
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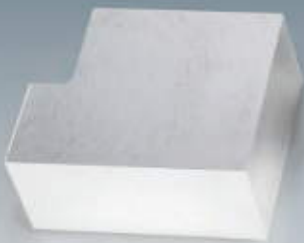
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