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# <u>Digest</u>



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# The Role of Castings in Armored Vehicles Helping to Save Lives in Harms Way

O'Gara-Hess & Eisenhardt of Fairfield, Ohio, an Armor Holdings Company, is one of the main suppliers of armored HumVees to the military. Metal castings play an important role in the armoring aspect of the vehicle. The standard HumVee that we might see on the streets as well as the base un-armored military model use hundreds of castings, just like most automotive vehicles. However, the additional armoring and prep work of the vehicle for frontline activities uses a lot more critically important castings.



O'Gara-Hess currently armors and preps 600 HumVees per month at it's suburban Cincinnati location. O'Gara Up-Armored High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs) such as the M1114 and its predecessor, the XM1109 (best remembered for its duty in Somalia during the early 1990's), have proven under fire that they can help troops accomplish the mission.

As the largest and most experienced wheeled vehicle armoring company in the world, O'Gara-Hess & Eisenhardt currently serves a wide range of commercial, corporate, government and military

customers worldwide on five continents. With peace-keeping missions on the rise throughout the world, the need for rapidly deployable forces and highly mobile, well-protected, light, tactical wheeled vehicles has never been greater.

O'Gara engineers continuously apply new and improved technologies to satisfy the changing needs for personnel protection needed in various campaigns around the world. What began in 1993 as a single configuration of the original AM General HMMWV chassis has become a dynamic armoring solution for a broad spectrum of task-specific vehicle variants, each designed for a wide range of modern peacekeeping missions that often require varying levels of troop protection.

### Saving lives of our soldiers

The M1116 Up-Armored HMMWV is used by the U.S. Air Force for Security Forces and Civil Engineering missions plus EOD and Base Recovery After Attack missions. This versatile armored light tactical wheeled vehicle system features gunner protection kit, traversing turret mechanism, expanded rear compartment and added underbody M67 grenade fragmentation protection.



A recent attack on a US vehicle is proof to the fact that O'Gara-Hess is doing its job. One of the soldiers involved reports. "First I want to say that I am glad to be here today. As you know my M1114 UAH vehicle was struck by an IED on 8 Sep 04, while traveling on MSR Sword south of CP45 in Baghdad. The blast damaged the left rear quarter panel and tire, started the vehicle on fire, and caused the vehicle to swerve out of control.

**Continued page 2: Castings Help Protect Our Soldiers** 

#### CAST EXPO 2005 EDITION, ISSUE 11

**Continued from page1** 

#### **Castings Help Protect Our Soldiers**

We then rolled over three times before coming to a rest back on all four wheels. As I have reflected over this for the past few days I am thankful for some of the safety measures that were in place that greatly contributed to our surviving this incident. The final outcome was that all vehicle occupants received relatively minor injuries and the vehicle was the key major loss as it continued to burn to a shell." CSM Jeff Butler, 16th MP BDE (ABN) Protector 7, Victory Camp, Iraq, September 29, 2004.

An important portion of the armoring and prep at O'Gara is the machine gun turret assembly. This assembly is a prime example of how metal castings are being used to help save lives and defend our nation. The assembly, pictured below, is a 20 pound device that allows the ease of movement for the HumVee mounted machine gun. With the diversity of soldiers now serving in the military, operations of equipment must be made so that 95% of all soldiers can complete the task; the machine gun turret is an example of this need. The assembly includes 8 steel investment castings and one aluminum permanent mold casting.



As Bob South from O'Gara states "with increasing volumes of armored vehicles needed, it makes sense to look at castings to reduce our overall costs. Castings will be looked at to replace hog outs and welded assemblies." For instance, the advanced versions of the vehicles will feature an aluminum casting in the floorboard area to absorb impact from under the vehicle.

Please contact Mr. Bob Dzugan at rdzugan@buyCASTINGS.com or call 1-866-buyCASTINGS to learn more about the various buyCASTINGS projects as well as membership programs

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# U.S. Manufacturing --

## Growth to Continue

2005 projections are positive as 75% of nation's purchasing executives expect revenues to exceed those of 2004. A 7.8% net increase in overall revenues for the year compared to an increase of 8.3% for 2004. Purchasing executives expect capital expenditures to increase only 1.6% in 2005, compared to the 15.1% increase reported for 2004, which may have been driven by tax credits. Survey respondents also forecast that they will increase their purchased inventory to sales ratio this year.

Manufacturers anticipate that employment in the sector will grow by 1.6%, while labor and benefits costs are expected to increase an average of 3.4%. Manufacturing purchasers are predicting growth in exports and imports. They also expect the U.S. dollar to strengthen somewhat against currencies of major trading partners.

Additionally, they predict the prices they pay will increase 4.3% during the first four months of the year, and will increase an additional 0.1% for the remainder of 2005. Respondents' major concerns are: prices and inflation; energy price increases; weak economy; effects of war and geopolitical concerns; and labor, benefits and healthcare costs, including labor shortages.

Source: ISM Semiannual Forecast, December 2004, Institute for Supply Management

These are a series of articles on Mfg in the US - we are optimistic about the future of mfg despite all the negatives that we hear in the common media. Manufacturing in the U.S. is critical to us and we love to hear from you - how can we do better and how can we help you...call 1-866-buyCASTINGS and ask for Bob, Neil, or Lee.

# Changing the World Through Materials and Castings

As President Bush has said, "We must begin to convert our economy from an oil-based to a hydrogen-based economy within 20 years".

"There is historical precedent for such a culture-altering shift," says Dr. Bhakta B. Rath, ASM Vice President. "What was the conventional fuel source of the 18th century? Wood. The 19th century? Coal. But we cannot wait another century for a solution: The liquid petroleum upon which we rely is being rapidly depleted." Who holds the key to finding the solution?

Metallurgist, Materials scientists and engineers. "ASM (and all of us) must take a leadership role as a society to focus on addressing this challenge, and other challenges of similar importance, before they wreck our domestic and international economy," he says.



#### Read the article:

http://asm.asminternational.org/c.asp?id=549235&l=49&c=7bbdf8332cfa1267

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Palmer M-300, Electric Sand Heater, Controls, (2) Pumps, Roller Loop (1995) Palmer M-500, Electric Sand Heater, Eagle Handler, Compaction Table, B&P Rollover Machine, Conveyor Loop, Transfer Sections (1995)

#### **CORE MAKING MACHINERY**

Loramendi SVA Machine, 110 Ltr X 2, With All Accessories, Ready to Load (1999) Harrison 18 X 18 Shell Core Machine, With PLC and Sand Transporter

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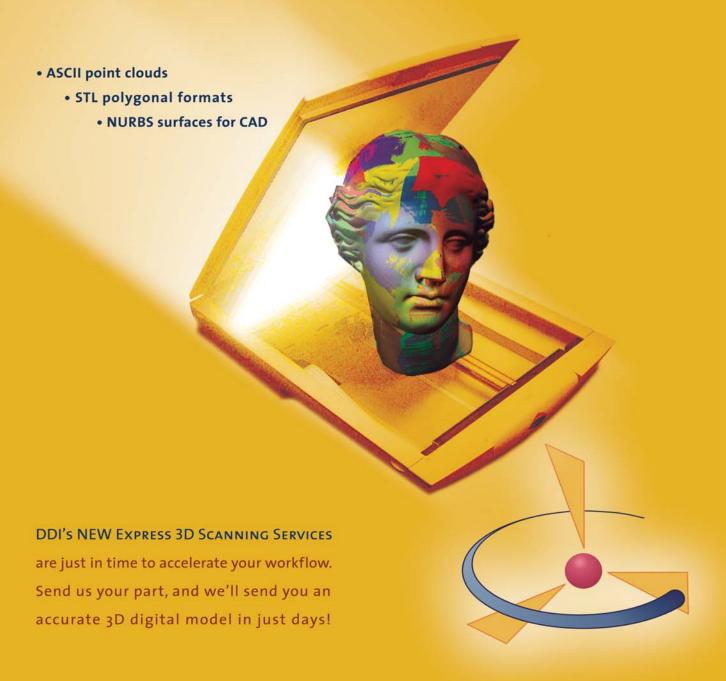
CLEANING ROOM-Casting Cleaning Cells w/ FOX "Snap" Grinders, (5) Wheelabrator 28 Cu. Ft. Tumblasts; AUTO. MOLDING & SAND SYSTEMS-Disamatic 2013 MK III w/Upgraded PLC Controls, Panelmate Power Pro Touchpad, Core Setter, 3000 lb. Liquimetrics Pressure Pour Furnace w/Selcom Laser System, AMC, PMC Conveyors, Didion MD 50 Media Drum '98 and Misc. Conveyors, Simpson Model 22G Multimull w/Hartley Compactability Controls, GK Fluidized Bed Conveyor, and Misc. Belts; Disamatic 2013 MK 1, w/Upgraded PLC Controls, Panelmate Power Pro Touchpad, 3000 lb. Liquimetrics Pressure Pour Furnace w/Selcom Laser System, AMC PMC Conveyors, Didion MD 50 Media Drum '95, Misc. Conveyors, and Misc. Belts; MELTING-60" Cupola, Inductotherm 20 Ton Linemelt Channel Induction Holding Furnace, Ladle Delivery System, Ladles, Charge Crane, and Magnet; MISC. Spares, Hoists, Brown and Sharp CMM, Air Compressors, Dust Collectors, Rolling Stock and Much More! Sale Managed By:

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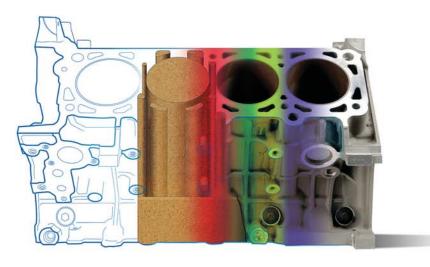


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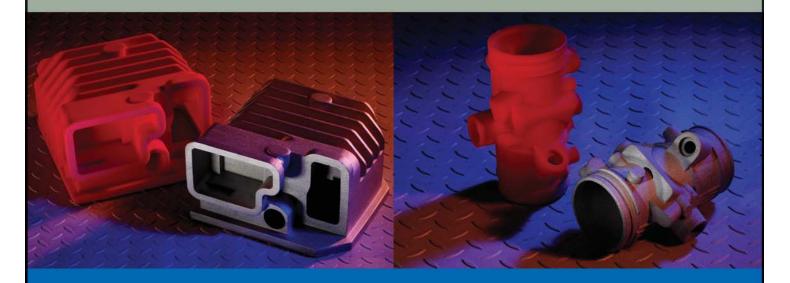
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#### Don't Go Offshore Just Yet

Sending your manufacturing overseas is one strategy, but there may be another way that can bolster profits and improve products. In the face of intensifying competition and rising cost pressures, American manufacturers are turning to offshoring in growing numbers. But closing US plants and transplanting manufacturing overseas may not be the best strategy, says major North American robot manufacturer, FANUC Robotics America Inc.



We must consider another option -automating and streamlining
existing facilities. Through this
alternative, firms can increase profits
and improve product quality. That's
the message that Fanuc is trying to
get across with its initiative "Save
Your Factory,". This collaborative
industry initiative is encouraging
North American manufacturers to
examine the big picture and to
look beyond the initial short-term
investments before off-shoring.

The decision to move overseas needs to fully explore the product quality, factory efficiency, inventory requirements and environmental impact, governmental support and stability, supply chain strength and intellectual property protection.

Additionally, companies should think about their social commitment and consider the motivation, loyalty, strength, skill and work ethic of their labor force.

"Save Your Factory" provides manufacturers with an objective comparison of the advantages, real costs and impact of automating versus off-shoring. It shows that automation, robotics and efficiency measures can be more cost-effective and profitable than off-shoring. Manufacturers can visit the initiative's site for information and to access resources, including audit and analysis tools, which can help maintain competitive manufacturing operations.

## 2005 Growth Sectors

To spot possible business opportunities for 2005 let's pay attention to the general economy AND the particular sectors:

Residential and commercial buildings: A slowdown in overall consumption is imminent as more capital is diverted to paying back debt instead of investing in capital assets as rates go up. Aerospace and defense: For example, the need for more fuelefficient aircraft is gaining in urgency, indicating a trend toward increased standardization of aircraft components and a shift toward smaller jets.

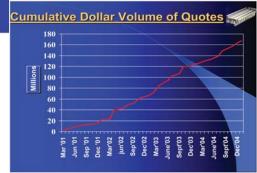
<u>Automotive Industry:</u> High gasoline prices will place more emphasis on achieving fuel efficiency in the automotive industry.

<u>Oil and gas industry:</u> Skyrocketing oil prices should stimulate drilling here in the U.S. as well as in Russia, South America and Mexico.

#### CAST EXPO 2005 EDITION, Issue 11



 100% Focus on the Metal Casting Industry



#### What our customers are saying...

"That's great, Bob. Thanks for your help. If we have other things to sell, we'll keep you and buyCASTINGS.com in mind."

- User of buyCASTINGS.com Foundry Equipment Sales, Sacramento, Ca.

"I appreciate your help very much...you guys are very responsive, it was phenomenal - don't expect that these days!" — Comments from aluminum casting buyer in Cleveland

"We look forward to working with you."

— Castings Buyer, Dayton, Ohio

"Thank you for the expediency of the quotes."

— Buyer, Indianapolis

"Your suggestions have been helpful".

— Buyer from Iowa

"I have reviewed your entire site and think you hit it right on the button!" — *Tooling shop owner* 

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May 10-12, 2005
Rapid Prototyping &
Manf. Conf. & Expo
Dearborn, Michigan

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Investment Casting
Institute

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Sept. 25-28, 2005

<u>Materials Science</u>

<u>& Technology 2005</u>

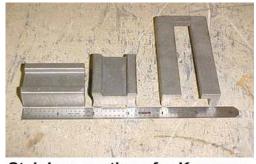
Pittsburgh, Pa.

# buyCASTINGS Rescues a Buyer in Need

Jim Kramer at Aker Kvaerner, a leading global provider of engineering and construction services, technology products and integrated solutions, of Williamsport, Pa came to buyCASTINGS back in December 2004 when none of their present suppliers of casting were able to meet a compressed delivery for a new set of stainless cast parts shown below. Within 2 days buyCASTINGS identified and provided quotes from MCM Precision of Weston, Ohio as the company who could meet their needs. Kvaerner needed 2 stainless steel castings for a boiler rebuild, but needed tooling and castings in 5 weeks. Their present suppliers could only offer 10 and 16 weeks for delivery. "We were very pleased with the response of buyCASTINGS and MCM precision to help us at this time" said Jim Kramer.







Stainless castings for Kvaerner

MCM precision was able to have the automated investment casting tools built in about 10 days and preceded to make samples that were delivered in about 3 weeks. The production of the 3200 sets was complete in 5 weeks and the remaining 3300 sets in 2 additional weeks. "We would have never known about opportunity without buyCASTINGS" stated Don Marion, owner of MCM precision.

MCM delivered the complete order in less time than it would have taken their present supplier to even start shipping the first parts. "buyCASTINGS provided us with options to help us meet our timeframe, we will use them again in the future" as summarized by Mr. Jim Kramer, another one of many satisfied casting buyers that come to buyCASTINGS!

Please contact Mr. Bob Dzugan at rdzugan@buyCASTINGS.com or call 1-866-buyCASTINGS to learn more about the various opportunities to get new business, cut costs, and solve your casting problem.

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