

CALDWELL

Manufacturing Company is sold on Minster

Minster presses have earned a position of respect with Caldwell Manufacturing Company of Rochester, New York, a major producer of window counterbalancing hardware and weather strip balance systems.

"As far as I'm concerned, there isn't any other press on the market. I've been around presses for 15 years and I've had to live with them all. We've never had any problems with Minsters," says Roger Weiss, Manufacturing Engineer of Caldwell Manufacturing.

It all started in 1888 when Allen Boucher and William Caldwell formed the company to manufacture a clock-spring counterbalance that replaced the old pulley and weight system of window counterbalancing. The clock-spring counterbalance remained the company's only product until 1948, when a spiral balance that fit into a plough in the window frame was developed. Caldwell's sales doubled following the marketing of the spiral balance.

The company's first Minster press dates back to 1963—a Minster O.B.I.-4 that has been in continuous operation without encountering any problems since its installation. The press stamps window sash brackets out of 1-5/16" x .060" and 1-1/16" x .060" cold rolled steel at 170 SPM, producing more than 3-million stampings a year.

Another reason for Caldwell's confidence in Minster presses is a B1-45 which is used for stamping anchor parts for the firm's window balancing systems out of 1-13/16" x .024" cold rolled steel. The press, now 8-years old, has run continuously every day at 180 SPM and has produced tens of millions of anchors since start-up.

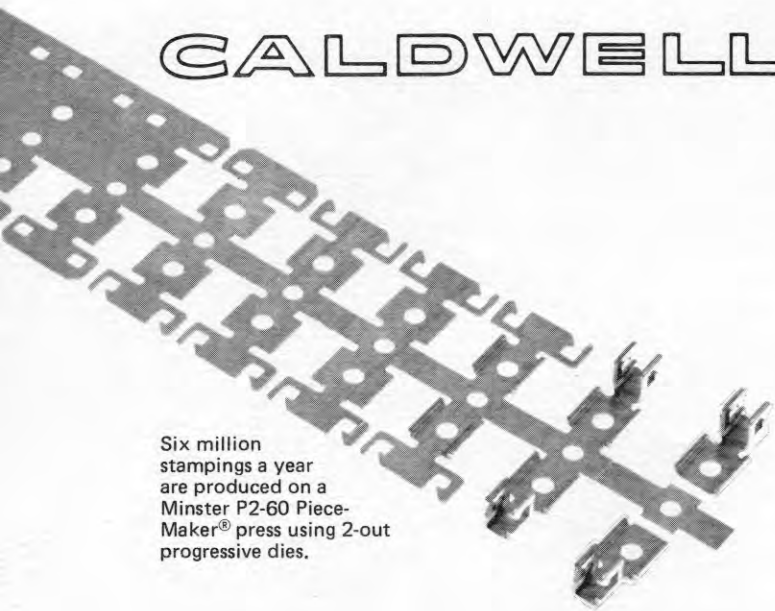
Today, with its sales doubled over the past five years, Caldwell maintains four domestic facilities to meet what has become a world-wide demand for its products. To keep pace with this demand, Caldwell has increased its production capability at its Rochester plant with high production, high accuracy progressive die stamping on a Minster P2-60 Piece-Maker® press.

"We had long experience with Minster Presses," recalled Mr. Weiss, "and when our Minster distributor convinced us that our stamping operation was very well suited to a straight side, we sold the advantages of the Minster Piece-Maker® to management."

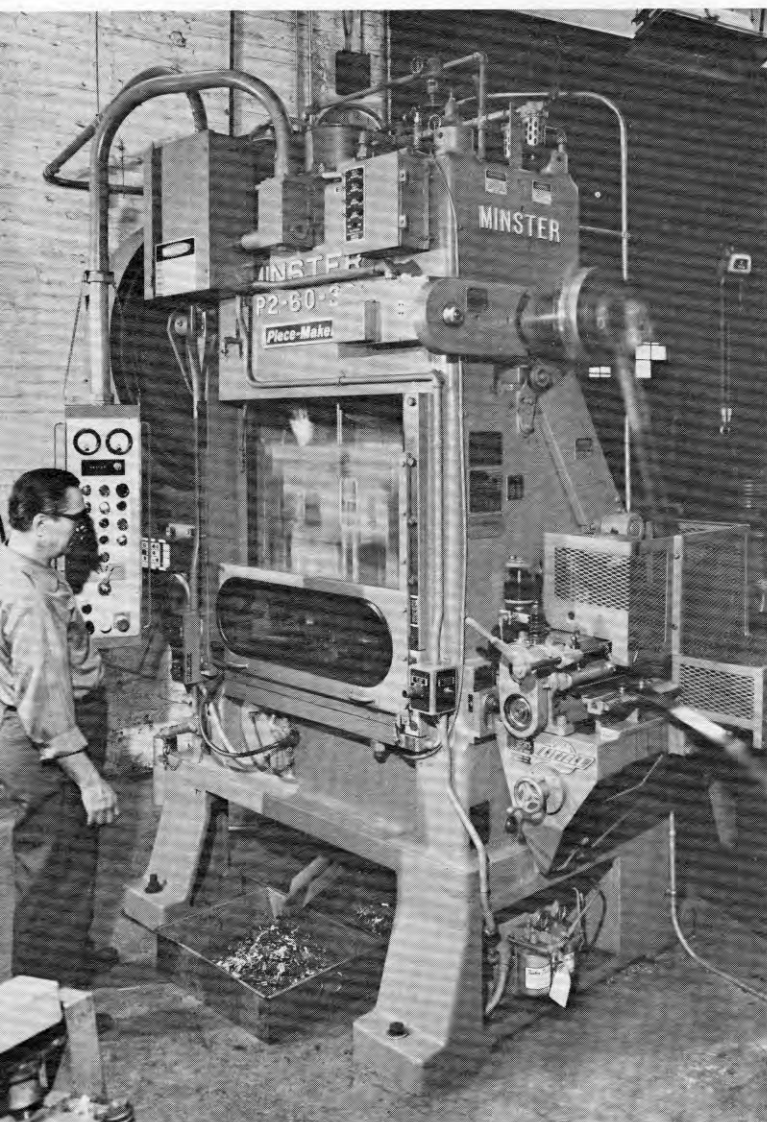
Since installing the Minster P2 the company can run 2-out dies due to the increased bed area, instead of 1-out in the gaps.

"The Minster Piece-Maker® knocked 16 production hours off our press schedule while also increasing our volume," Weiss said.

"We not only get better parts accuracy but greatly extended die life," he added. "We get as much as 100% more hits between die grinds with the P2 as compared to running in gap presses and only had to take off half as much to sharpen the dies. At the same time we get four times as many parts between grinds with the P2 since we're able to run a 2-out instead of a 1-out die."



Six million stampings a year are produced on a Minster P2-60 Piece-Maker® press using 2-out progressive dies.



Two-out progressive die runs in P2-60 at 240 SPM. Material is 2-5/8" x .060" coldrolled steel.

"The combination of the press itself and the service you receive is unbeatable," commented Mike Lioy, Plant Engineer. "When we decide we need another press it will be a Minster," Weiss said.

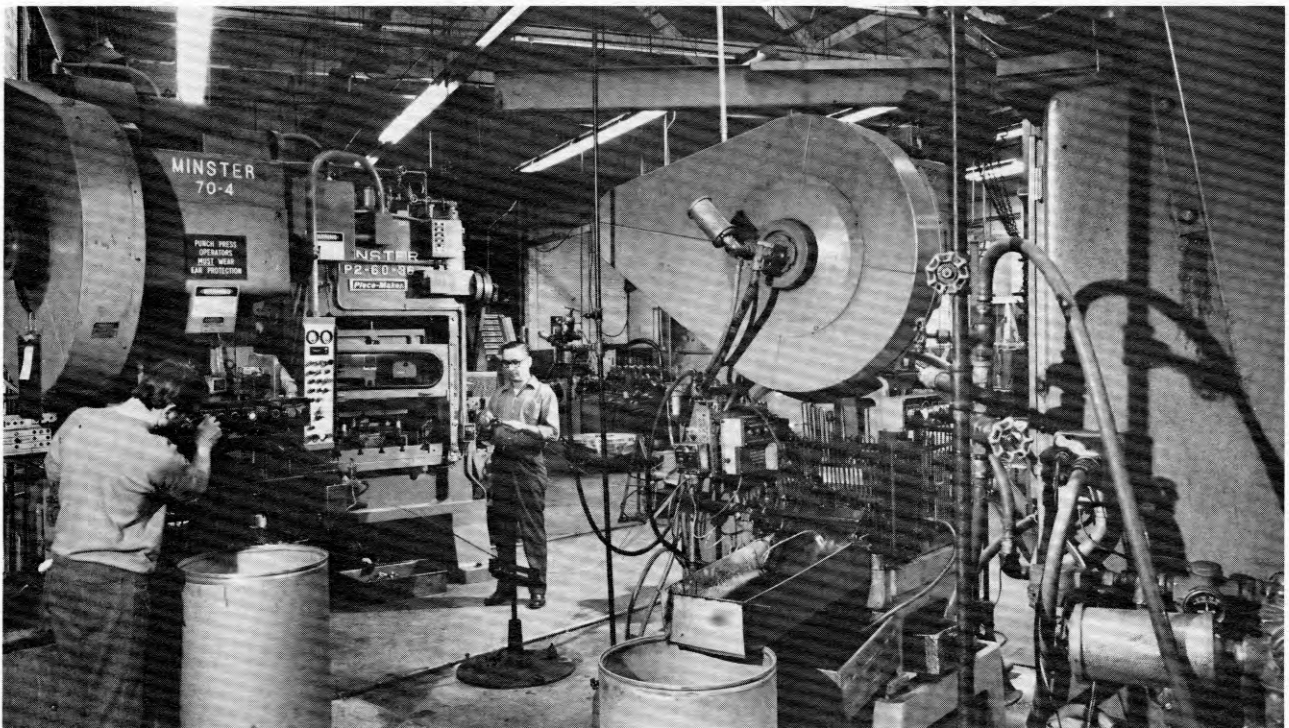
In addition to Rochester, N.Y., Caldwell maintains manufacturing facilities in Jackson, Mississippi, and Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania, (near Philadelphia). Caldwell's subsidiary, the Burcon Corporation, is located in Chicago, Illinois.

The Rochester plant is the company's largest and contains the necessary equipment to make almost any part that will be incorporated in Caldwell window hardware.

Most home owners would find it difficult to name a single product produced by Caldwell Manufacturing Company. But to window manufacturers and distributors all over the world, Caldwell means quality window counterbalancing hardware and weather strip balance systems. And, to Roger Weiss and Mike Lioy, Minster presses mean dependable, trouble-free performance in the production of these products.



Roger Weiss (left), Manufacturing Engineer; Mike Lioy, Plant Engineer and George Reynolds, Parts Department Superintendent, inspect progressive die strip run in Minster P2 Piece-Maker press.



Four Minster presses on line at Rochester, N.Y., plant. Minster presses produce millions of stampings a year for Caldwell window balance hardware.