

# Beginnings & Endings...

## Lees Bradner Line Sold to Industrial Products

Fayscott LLC and Industrial Products announced the sale of the Lees Bradner line of gear hobbers and thread cutting machines to Industrial Products, which will do business under the Lees Bradner name.

According to the Lees Bradner press release, the daily operations will be relocated to Kennewick, WA. During the transition period, Fayscott will continue to provide parts and services.

Lees Bradner will continue to support the gear hobber product line as well as streamlined parts to support the thread millers indefinitely.

## Balzers Begins New Coating Research

Balzers, along with cooperating partners Plansee AG, the Montan University Leoben and University of Innsbruck, began developing new thin coatings for tools.



**Robert Bergmann, 75, a former president of the American Gear Manufacturers Association, died June 10.**

**Bergmann was CEO of Abart Gear & Machine Co. for 17 years before starting a consulting firm.**

**On the memorial website created by Bergmann's family at [www.geocities.com/jmahn44/RBERGMANN](http://www.geocities.com/jmahn44/RBERGMANN), Fred Young of Forest City Gear said, "On a personal basis, I recall his words of wisdom to me as I rotated through the AGMA hierarchy and as the president of a gear company. We shall miss our friend, but know he is where there is never a rejected gear or a mean customer."**

## Houghton Ships Record Number of Fluids

**Houghton International has shipped 3 million gallons of Hocut 795 biostable coolant, achieving an industry milestone for sales of grinding/cutting fluid, according to Houghton's press release.**

**The coolant is used nationwide in aerospace, automotive, appliance and off-road equipment applications. The coolant is biostable, preventing the growth of mold, fungus and odor that cause bacteria without adding sumpside biocides.**

**The product line includes a semi-synthetic cutting and grinding fluid that makes it compatible for use with metals like cast iron materials. In addition, it contains a coolant specially formulated for machining red metals.**



According to the company's press release, scientists will analyze the composition and structure of coating materials, coating growth and induced coating structures as well as real-world applications.

Balzers is a global supplier of PVD coatings for precision components such as metalworking and plastics processing tools.

## Xtek and Metlab Form Alliance

Xtek Inc. and Metlab formed a strategic partnership that leverages Metlab's carburizing furnaces to expand the capabilities of both companies.

According to the companies' joint press release, Metlab maintains the use of its furnaces and supporting equipment via long-term lease. The agreement expands Xtek's ability to heat treat and carburize large diameter gears up to 14' in diameter. Maintenance and possession of the furnace will take place at Metlab's Philadelphia facility. Metlab will also continue to serve existing customers in carburizing, nitriding and hardening operations.

The shared responsibilities include

heat treating and metallurgical engineering technology and processes.

Xtek, of Cincinnati, OH, manufactures custom machined and heat treated parts for industrial applications. Metlab, of Philadelphia, PA, is a metallurgical consulting, heat treat and surface enhancement company.

## Columbia Gear Awarded ISO/TS 16949-2002 Certification

Columbia Gear Co. was awarded ISO/TS 16949-2002 certification.

The standard was created to meet the quality requirement for automotive suppliers and is based on ISO 9001: 2000, AVSQ (Italian), EAQF (French), AS 9000 (U.S.) and VDA6.1 (German) automotive requirements.

Headquartered in Avon, MN, Columbia Gear provides OEMs with integrated solutions in custom gearing.

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