



AMAMCO Tool - Company History

William (Bill) G. Neufeld, former President and CEO of AMAMCO Tool & Supply Co. Inc., began his career in the carbide cutting tool industry in 1957. He served his apprenticeship in Saginaw, Michigan and during the next twelve years, his expertise and enterprise took him into key positions at several of Detroit's leading carbide tool manufacturers including Fullerton Tool, Rotary Tool and the Earl Huff Company.

After relocating to South Carolina, Bill Neufeld started AMAMCO Tool (American Manufacturing and Marketing Company) with a loan from the Small Business Administration (SBA), in June of 1972. During the 1970's, AMAMCO Tool grew from a small tool shop of 10 employees, operating in a 1,200 sq. ft. converted barn, to a growing company employing around 20 skilled machinists in a 20,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility, located in Duncan, S.C.

Neufeld quickly recognized the need for a custom solutions provider of innovative tool design and manufacture. His early success revealed that he had spearheaded a trend toward a higher level of professionalism among regional toolmakers. Within a decade, AMAMCO Tool set a high-quality benchmark for cutting tools, as well as on-time product delivery and business management integrity that continues to maintain the company's success to the present.

By the 1980's, AMAMCO Tool's reputation for quality and reliable service earned attention within the nation's aircraft and aerospace industry. Not hesitant to respond to the challenge of producing to the exact tolerances and cutting geometries required of aerospace contractors, the company's growth once again doubled to the level of 47 employees, 36 of which were trained toolmakers. During the '80's, the company upgraded throughout its operations, implementing advanced IT systems & computer services, as well as adopting industry quality standards and acquiring state-of-the-art CNC equipment (automated, high-precision grinding machinery).

The company diversified its customer base, to include the automotive and marine industries, which also require high precision carbide cutting tools, during the 1990's. By then, the company was known as a trusted provider of special-need solutions and innovation. The company had carved out a niche and reputation as a cost-lowering solutions provider for specialized needs.

AMAMCO Tool was built to offer alternatives to the mass-produced, 'off-the-shelf' tool that may cost less but require multiple hit rates and deliver short tool life. AMAMCO Tool is a custom cutting tool-making company that supplies precise geometry tools for manufacturers in industries such as aerospace, automotive and marine - from top-tier Boeing and Lockheed to the smallest experimental & prototype builders, using materials and innovations for the future.

During the 1990's and since 2000, AMAMCO Tool's workforce has grown to around 70 and continues to update its facility with improved equipment and workspaces, including a current renovation to employee service areas. The company continues to receive superior ratings and meet strict regulation requirements as an approved manufacturer for major industries such as aerospace, aircraft, automotive and general machining.

AMAMCO Tool was one of the first manufacturers in the state of South Carolina to adopt the ISO 9000 Quality Program. As a result, the company has been nominated and recognized by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce for industry quality excellence.



AMAMCO Tool Development History

Certifications & Growth Milestones	Decade	Employees
Start up – established model for custom solutions provider using highest quality carbide material to consistently hold tolerances. Partnered with numerous distributors. Built business reputation for integrity & trustworthiness.	Start-up 1972	increased to 10
Company achieved GE Supplier Excellence Certification Penetration into Automotive and Aircraft industries.	Early 80's	increased from 10 to 30
Company built and occupied new facility to accommodate rapid growth, expanding output to further penetrate automotive and aircraft industries.	Mid 80's	reaches 50
Company ISO 9002 Certification ¹ provided a more secured relationship with the customer base as Quality Assurance had become a requirement for vendor approval. Capital Investment from manual machinery to CNC automation ² .	Mid 90's	reaches 70
Company AS9100 Certification allowed it to meet aircraft / aerospace quality requirements.	Early 2000's	approx. 60
Company undertakes expansion / reorganization of production environment to facilitate projected growth of major aircraft projects (Boeing 787, Lockheed F-35 & Sikorsky programs). Company begins to implement Lean Manufacturing Principles.	Mid 2000 - current	Returned to 70

¹ AMAMCO Tool was one of the first toolmakers in South Carolina to become ISO 9002 certified

ISO 9002:2000 and AS9100A Certification is quality control proof, not theory. AMAMCO Tool's entire manufacturing process is regularly probed in great detail by an independent quality system certification body, American Quality Assessors. AMAMCO Tool was found compliant with internationally accepted quality standards. A compliant and certified quality management system ensures that the company can deliver products that meet a standard of quality requirements time and time again.

² CNC (computer numerical control) A type of programmable automation, directed by mathematical data, which uses microcomputers to carry out various machining operations.