

Day 2: Final day at DiStar

I started the day with a field trip to Jimko Machine Products, Jim Jenkinson owner. I was amazed with all the technology. His company offers precision machining operations - including CNC turning, drilling, tapping, milling, boring and grinding. There were at least six Milltronics doing amazing work. They also have Swiss Screw Machines. Jim told me that Torin and MidWest Machine Tool also have them. He said he started his company 31 years ago with \$850 and today he has grown into a very viable family business.



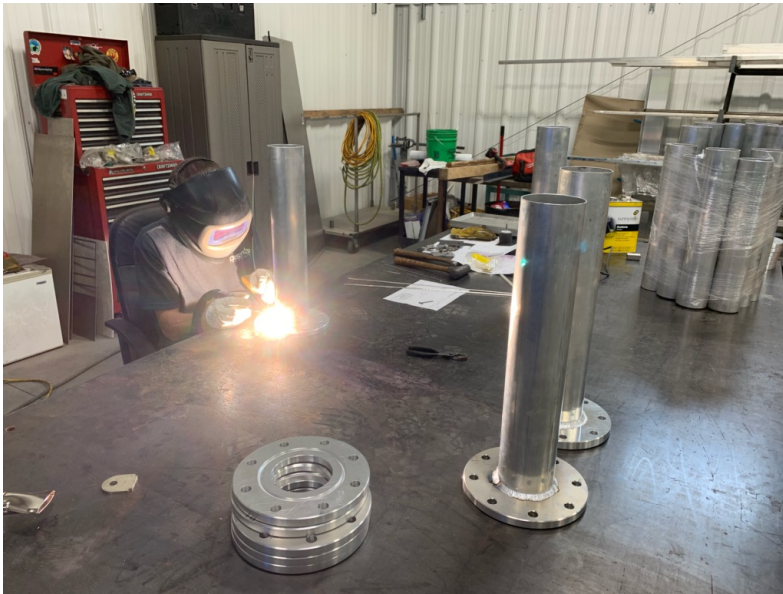
Pictured Jim Jenkinson & Tracy Dodson

Back at DiStar I looked over a lot of blueprints and parts that DiStar made for various companies around the midwest. While there I saw BD contractors, Johnson Sand and Gravel, Midwest Machine Tool and Mueller Schoepf Drywall employees all come in to pick up parts, which is a daily occurrence.

To sum up the two day experience at DiStar, they provide a much needed service with their stainless & mild steel & aluminum sheet metal fabrication, laser & waterjet cutting, press brake & finishing & CNC machining job shop. It looks like Darren and I are on the same page on getting his guys to CHS to show our students how machine tool and welding come together to make a product. They will emphasize the importance of the skills they are learning in school and how they will help them get a career in their future.



Pictured Tim, CHS Graduate & DiSTAR tig welding



Kent welding spindles for BD.