



CORPORATE MEMBER PROFILE

ALABAMA LASER

An LIA corporate member since 1998, Alabama Laser, Munford, AL, offers process development, laser systems, specialized laser research services, and complete laser job shop services. Alabama Laser's manufacturing experience coupled with its engineering research team helps the company provide solutions for customer's specific application needs.

COMPANY ORGANIZATION

Founded in 1980 by Don Johnson, who today is the company's CEO, Alabama Laser is a division of Alabama Specialty Products, Inc. and consists of 250 employees.

"The company began by machining metal specimens for corrosion and mechanical testing in 1980. As lasers became part of that machining process, Alabama Laser began performing laser cutting and welding services for many other companies and, over the years, grew into one of the nation's largest laser job shops," explained Alabama Laser President Wayne Penn.

"Our founder and owner Don Johnson saw the need for faster more reliable laser systems in our own shop, so he tasked his engineering team with building our own systems. After completing many systems to handle production in our job shop, other companies approached us with laser system needs of their own, so Alabama Laser started to design and manufacture systems for others. Drawing from our years as a laser job shop, we were able to offer unique experience to help provide customers with solutions to their system needs. Today, Alabama Laser is able to conduct laser research on a customer's project, provide process development for that project, and then build a system to meet their needs."

PRODUCTS AND APPLICATIONS

Alabama Laser first manufactured industrial laser systems for other companies in 1997 and the job shop has provided services to aerospace, auto racing, transportation, industrial equipment, medical, defense/government, furniture, agricultural, automotive, oil field, and chemical industries. The company's laser systems include CO2 lasers, Nd:YAG lasers, fiber lasers, direct diode lasers, and fiber-delivered direct diode lasers. Additionally, Alabama Laser specializes in laser research and development services.

"Our laser research staff and in-house engineering/design team is devoted to providing solutions for laser machining problems, including system development and process development for laser cutting, welding, etching/marking, metal deposition, heat treating, hybrid welding, and laser cladding," said Penn.

According to Penn, custom systems that have been built for customers' specific requirements are the company's biggest

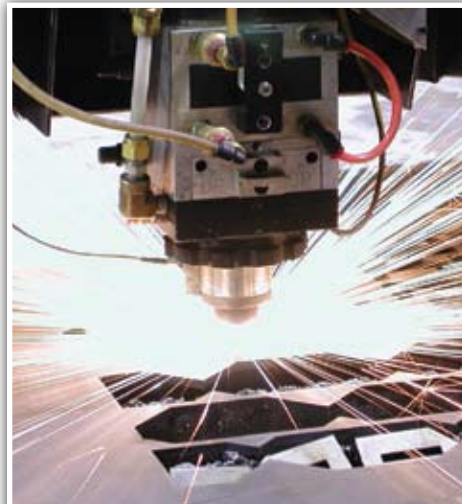
selling items.

Regarding their latest products, Penn explained that a new line of laser marking systems, including tabletop models and larger automated models have recently been released.

"Another new product line is our modular TetraPORT laser systems that can be designed for welding, cutting, heat treating, metal deposition, and laser cladding," he said.

Penn has seen the largest industry growth in work for military and engine technology industries. He has also seen greater reliability and production speed emerge as positive industry changes.

As an LIA member for 10 years now, Alabama Laser likes being able to network with the laser community through the LIA and also be able to refer its customers to LIA for education in safety and laser processing. For more information visit www.alabamalaser.com. ■



Alabama Laser offers research, job shop services, and systems for laser cutting, welding, etching, cladding and other applications.