

**In This Issue:**

- **ISO Recertification**
- **Spotlight on our Quality Team**
- **LED Lighting Improvement**
- **BAA Batting Cage**
- **(Bean) Bag It!**
- **Bursting with Pride!**
- **Saluting the Salutatorian**
- **Keeping our Team Safe**

## ISO Recertification

 **Professional Plating Inc recently underwent an intensive five-day recertification audit to ISO standard 9001:2015. DQS Inc. conducted the audit. This international quality standard was designed to verify that companies are following good quality practices.**



### CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that

**Professional Plating Inc.**  
705 Northway Drive  
Billion, WI 54110  
United States of America

has implemented and maintains a **Quality Management System.**

Scope:  
Metal finishing services including Rack and Barrel Zinc Plating, Acrylic and Epoxy Electrocoat, and Powder Coating.

Through an audit, documented in a report, it was verified that the management system fulfills the requirements of the following standard:

**ISO 9001 : 2015**

Certificate registration no. 10013303 QM15  
Date of original certification 2014-08-19  
Date of revision 2020-06-25  
Date of certification 2020-07-26  
Valid until 2023-07-25

DQS Inc.

*Brad McGuire*  
Brad McGuire  
Managing Director

Accredited Body: DQS Inc., 1500 McCormick Parkway, Suite 400, Schaumburg, IL 60173 USA

**Companies that wish to comply with ISO standards set procedures in place that show commitment to good quality and sound business practices in areas such as Continuous Improvement, Customer Focus, Leadership and Process Improvement. Having set procedures in place allows work to be done in a consistent and efficient manner. Companies are audited to confirm that they are doing what they say they are doing. It is the organization's responsibility to investigate and evaluate any non-conformances found during an audit, in order to continuously ensure full compliance to the applied standard. Several comments were made on this audit in areas where Professional Plating is exceeding the requirements of the standards/specifications.**

**Professional Plating has a long-standing commitment to meet and exceed our customer's requirements with being quality certified since 2001. This commitment was again supported with this year's audit with no corrective actions being issued and the recertification to ISO standard 9001:2015 being awarded to the Team at Professional Plating! We are very proud of our Team for continually putting forth their best effort, which allows us to provide quality to our customers, time and time again.**

**Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this year's audit was also unique. Instead of an auditor coming on site, the audit was done 100% remotely using Microsoft GoToMeeting and video calls to walk the auditor through our processes. Our next annual surveillance audit is scheduled for June 2021.**

Contact Us:

920-756-2153

Check Us Out On  
The Web at:

[www.proplating.com](http://www.proplating.com)

**Specialty Coatings**

Acrylic E-coat

Barrel Zinc

Epoxy E-Coat

Powder Coat

Pro-Advantage

Pro-Dura Clear

Rack Zinc

GM Approval

Volvo Approval

## Team Member Spotlight: Quality Team

▲ Our annual recertification or surveillance audit happens over the course of three to five days. However, the work involved in upholding the requirements of the ISO standard are happening every day at Professional Plating! Each member of the PPI Team plays a role in understanding and carrying out parts of what goes into being a quality certified company, but kudos go out to those Team Members whose job it is to support the production processes to allow them to run at peak performance.

The Quality Lab at Professional Plating performs testing on bath concentrations and recommends to the production line when chemical additions need to be made. Testing is done to keep the baths at optimum levels and supplements the additions being made to tanks by the automatic chemical feeds on each line. The use of automatic chemical feeding allows the chemistry to be maintained at a consistent level throughout the production day.

The primary function of the Quality Analyst role is to analyze data being generated. From reviewing test results and first pass reports, the goal is to identify trends and opportunities for improvement. Analysts also work directly with production line inspectors to help calibrate inspection criteria for consistent application of customer standards. Additionally the Quality Analyst will shadow parts that are being trialed on a production line; review issues surrounding rejects; and maintain process documentation. Maintaining equipment such as pH and thickness meters and keeping records of equipment calibrations, also fall to the Quality Lab personnel.



Shown at left: Jerry Sherrod, Quality Technician and Renee Larson, Quality Analyst

Shown below: Bob Zipperer, Engineering and Quality Coordinator; Toni Post, Quality Technician; and Sara Bartel, Senior Quality Analyst



Professional Plating respects the time and privacy of our customers. In no way is this update meant to be spam mail.

If you no longer wish to receive a quarterly electronic update from Professional Plating, please click the following link.

To Opt Out

## LED Lighting Improvement

▲ Professional Plating Inc. is proud to announce the completion of a major cost improvement program that will “keep our future bright”!

Working in conjunction with Focus on Energy and Brantmeier Electric of Chilton, we embarked on a total and complete changeover to LED lighting in our production facility.

This investment amounted to approximately \$315,000.00. Focus on Energy provided input and support to the program, while Brantmeier Electric provided expertise and leadership for a comprehensive successful design and layout that met the needs of our business.

Some statistics of the project include the following:

- Focus on Energy Incentive - \$19,288.00
- Demand Savings – 53 kW
- Annual Electric Savings – 348,417 kWh
- Lifecycle Electric Savings – 6,025,073 kWh
- Annual Electric Cost Savings - \$27,000.00

Professional Plating remains committed to improving our workplace with better lighting conditions, as well as reducing the overall long-term utility footprint, all while reducing costs.



Shown accepting the Focus on Energy rebate check are left to right, Carl Weber Professional Plating Maintenance Manager; Ted Verhaagh, Energy Adviser for the Focus on Energy program; Mike Brantmeier, Owner of Brantmeier Electric and Larry Dietz, Professional Plating General Manager.

## Helping our Youth Prepare for the MLB

▲ The Brillion Athletic Association recently approached Professional Plating to assist with powder coating the poles for the new batting cage they were installing at Peter’s Park in Brillion.

Show here are several members of the BAA and the impressive structure now in place for those little league superstars to work on their batting skills.



For information about Professional Plating and general questions related to metal finishing, check the FAQ section of our website at:

Frequently Asked Questions

[www.prolating.com](http://www.prolating.com)

## (Bean) Bag It!

▲ Going to work, every day does not have to be all “work” and in fact, we encourage a healthy amount of “fun at work”!

Wednesday June 24<sup>th</sup>, Professional Plating once again pulled out the bean bag boards and bags and kicked off one of our legendary Team Member Bean Bag Tournaments. 32 members of the PPI Team signed up to participate in the 2-person team, “winner takes the bragging rights”, tournament.



Working their way through the single elimination tournament bracket, the teams put on an impressive show of skill with two teams remaining on Thursday to fight for the 1<sup>st</sup> place finish! In the end the team of Vicky Giesseman, Specialty Products Technician and Bob Zipperer, Engineering & Quality Coordinator won the championship match over Jody Mullard, Ecoat Scheduler and Brock Behnke, of our Flex Team, by a score of 29 to 24.

This was the first time that Vicky and Bob teamed up and was also the first time that either of them was part of sharing the Championship Crown!

## Bursting with Pride

▲ The Powder Coat and Ecoat teams at Professional Plating were recently named a “2020 Top Shop for Liquid and Powder Coating” by *Products Finishing* magazine.

According to *Products Finishing*, this is the sixth year that they have conducted the Top Shops Benchmarking Survey, which measures shops based on more than 50 operational metrics including lead time, on-time delivery, first-pass quality yield and finishing equipment usage. It was noted that with the growing number of participants taking the survey, it is getting harder every year to earn the honor of being a Products Finishing Top Shop, but that Professional Plating’s operation certainly earned and deserved this high honor.



Kudos to our paint department teams on receiving this distinguished honor! Professional Plating has won this award six times out of the six years that it has been in existence for both our paint and zinc departments!

## Saluting the Salutatorian

▲ The team at Professional Plating is very proud to continue to be a supporter of the Brillion High School Annual Salutatorian Scholarship program.



This year's very deserving 2020 recipient is Isaac Roehrig.

Isaac will be moving on to continue his education at UW-River Falls, majoring in agriculture, with a goal to become an Ag Teacher.

Congratulations, Isaac and Best of Luck to you on your future endeavors!

## Keeping our Team Safe

▲ The past three months have been a challenge for all of us, both personally and for our businesses! From early on when the pandemic was identified, Professional Plating has been dedicated to providing our Team with essential supplies to assist them in their quest to Stay Safe!



- ✓ Hand sanitizer was bought in bulk and reduced to pump containers set around the building and also put into pocket-sized plastic bottles for our Team to have available in their lockers, purses, etc.
- ✓ We ordered paper facemasks and patiently waited for supplies to slowly make their way here for us to make available for our Team, to wear at work if they chose and to share with family for trips to the grocery stores and other public places.
- ✓ We were also happy to provide hand sanitizer to several local volunteer fire department and First Responder units, and recently donated face masks to the Brillion Public Library so that they could move toward opening the library to the public, after being closed and offering only curbside service for several months.

These have been very troubling times and each of us reacts differently to the seriousness and unknown nature of the pandemic. That said, we have also been very accommodating to Team Members who did not feel comfortable being at work, along with those who had unexpected child care and parent-teacher roles, to be off of work to take care of those obligations.

For those Team Members who were able to come to work and keep production moving for our essential customers, we had various “eats and treats” brought in from local providers. The Team was appreciative of receiving several individually-boxed lunches from local Brillion restaurants, Cobblestone Creek, Deer Run and Marco’s BBQ. Other weeks we provided individually-packaged snacks such as cheese curd and mozzarella whips from Henning’s in Kiel, gourmet popcorn from Faris Gourmet Popcorn in Fond du Lac, and cartons of milk (of course accompanied by donuts) in support of area farmers when the milk supply exceeded the demand.



As we are now in the month of July, we realize that we are not yet to the point of putting the corona virus behind us, but we will continue to work through whatever challenges it may bring and know that TOGETHER we will get through this!

WE WILL GET THRU THIS  
*together*