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**A New Addition to our Family!**

▲ Professional Plating signed a contract with Koch Finishing-Jessup Systems, in early 2021 to start the planning phase of our latest equipment addition. Rack 6, is now installed and started production the last week of July. This was a \$4.5 million dollar investment for the machine and tooling.



This is our third rack zinc line. It is slightly smaller than our existing two rack zinc lines. Rack 6 can plate parts 12" wide x 6' in length.

Our newest zinc rack plating machine has the same extensive 15-stage pretreatment as our other two hoist systems and offers two chromate choices. With this addition, we offer the flexibility for multiple processes that will help PPI and our customers get the best plating and quality around.

Two team members were added to complete the Team that transferred from an existing plating line to run on a daily basis. The line runs 19.5 hours a day.

**Our Symbol of Freedom and Justice!**

▲ Brillion resident Derek Emmer contacted Professional Plating at the end of July, about a beautification project that he was working on, and for which he was looking for some assistance with.

Derek noticed that Heritage Park in Brillion had a flagpole that was no longer standing straight and was not properly lit up at night. He took it upon himself to do something to make this right. After garnering the proper approvals from the City, Derek reached out to area organizations, businesses and friends to help achieve the completion of this project. Things progressed quickly, and now as we near the end of October, the overgrown trees and shrubs have been cleared, concrete has been poured, and the US Flag on its new lighted pole, are in place for all to see! Several park benches will also be placed along the circular concrete walkway.



Professional Plating is proud to have paid for the cost of the new flagpole, in honor of our PPI Team!

Contact Us:  
920-756-2153  
Check Us Out On  
The Web at:  
www.proplating.com

Specialty Coatings  
Acrylic E-coat  
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Pro-Advantage  
Pro-Dura Clear  
Rack Zinc  
GM Approval  
Volvo Approval

## Lab Update

▲ As part of our recent expansion project with the Rack 6 plating line, Professional Plating also completed an upgrade to the Quality Lab. The new lab will provide better flow and organization for testing and allow us to be ready for any future line expansions.

The upgrade included:

- Doubled the lab footprint which allows space to keep chemical and physical testing separate
- Temperature controlled room to have constant temperature to improve accuracy of test results
- New flooring, cabinets and stain resistant counter tops
- Upgraded equipment including: Digital oven, new hull cell equipment, thickness meter, ph meters, and conductivity meters
- New gage cabinets for better control of incoming and outgoing gages
- Refrigerator to hold temperature sensitive chemicals



## The Twist

▲ Depending upon your age, the title of this article might conger up thoughts of Chubby Checker singing "Come on baby, let's do the twist"; or maybe you have thoughts of a cold chocolate/vanilla twist ice cream cone...the correct answer however is "The Twist Pretzels" food stand, operated by Ms Victoria Stock, that visited the Team at Professional Plating in July!



The pop-up appreciation day featured free fresh pretzel twists and nuggets, served with various dipping sauce options. The snack went a long way to change any "salty attitudes" to a tasty, salty treat!



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 update from Professional Plating, please click the following link.

To Opt Out

## Team Member Spotlight

▲ The second week in September we had the opportunity to send a special THANK YOU to our Truck Drivers during National Truck Driver Appreciation Week!



Shown above from left to right: David Scott has been on the PPI Logistics team since 2016. David's route sends him mostly north of Brillion and into Door County. Ted Lamers just celebrated his three-year anniversary with Professional Plating and travels south into the Milwaukee area. Handling the route to the western part of the state is Jerry Stay who started in June 2021. Rounding out the Logistics Team is Joe Gauthier who came on board in July of 2021. His route has him servicing customers west of Milwaukee.

These four guys are driving our PPI 18-wheeled billboards around the state and are the faces that many of our customers see when they are delivering and picking up customer orders. We appreciate their dedication and flexibility and the outstanding job they do for us!

## Happiness Is....Ice Cream!

▲ Professional Plating General Manager Larry Dietz decided to celebrate his birthday in September by sponsoring ice cream treats for everyone!

Larry is a fan of IRA Sprint Car racing, which is where he met Hunter Custer who races in the Sprint Car circuit. When Hunter isn't racing, he is running two ice cream shops, "Custer's Cones", one in Chippewa Falls and one in Chetek.



Everyone enjoyed the different variety of cold treats that Hunter offered in his mobile ice cream shop, which included Pistachio, Black Cherry, Butter Pecan, Raspberry Lemon Italian Ice and Electric Watermelon Italian Ice.

The Team at PPI was glad that he made a pit stop in Brillion to serve up some cold treats on the occasion of Larry's big day!



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)

## Team Member Appreciation Picnic

▲ The Professional Plating Team Member Appreciation Picnic was held on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. We were fortunate to once again have beautiful weather! Guest motivational speaker Randy Fox was on hand to give the Team some "food for thought" on how to be a better "you"!



The Team moved from "food for the soul" to "food for the body", enjoying BBQ and all the fixings by Mark Kuchenbecher and his team from Marko's Smokin' BBQ. The meal was also enjoyed by 14 of our retired Team Members who were invited to the event.

Each PPI Team Member went home that day with a new PPI performance t-shirt along with gifts that had been donated by some of our great suppliers. There were some larger dollar value items such as camping and computer equipment and tickets to a Green Bay Packer game, along with \$25 gift cards.



"Picnic day" was also the culmination of our Bean Bag Tournament that started earlier in the week. 36 Team Members signed up for the single elimination tournament. The championship round paired Zinc Rack 4 Production Technician Diana Schmitt and Powder Scheduler, Ashley Behnke, against Powder Paint Team Member Chad Sharar and Bob Zipperer, Engineering & Quality Manager. Chad and Bob took home the Gold, but all who participated had a great time!

## Back to School

▲ Similar to a parent who is proud when their children do well, we are always excited to see our Team Members step up and take the proverbial “bull by the horns”. Back in July, Office Assistant Jordan Miller inquired about doing a school supply drive, and then took things from there to get it organized!

No question, the PPI Team once again came through with boxes full of notebooks, markers, glue sticks, crayons, etc. The local schools that were contacted all noted that also on the most needed items list were underwear, jogging pants and leggings (for those embarrassing incidents that might happen at school). We used money that Team Members donated to purchase those items.



The parochial and public schools in Brillion all stopped in to pick up supplies, and since we had collected such an abundance of supplies, we then reached out to schools in neighboring communities to help them as well.

Shown are Scott Smith, Brenda Bastian, Nicole Stehula and Wendy Diel who filled up backpacks of supplies to take back to their respective schools.

## Quote Requests >> We need your help!

▲ Professional Plating strives to provide timely quotes for new projects for our customers. Unfortunately, the process can sometimes be delayed if the required information is not provided in the RFQ or if we have to manually calculate area and weight. Area and weight are the two main factors that drive our quoting process. If a customer has the capability to provide that information on the print or RFQ, our Estimators will be able to provide a faster turnaround time on the quote. Another way the process can be sped up is if the customer can send us an electronic drawing format for the print so that we can calculate the area through a CAD program.

Additional information we would like to see with every quote includes the EAU's and lot sizes for the parts, target price if available, specification information if not clearly noted on the print, and any special packaging requirements needed for the parts.

If this information is provided with the RFQ, the quoting process will go much smoother and quicker and we can avoid the e-mail tag back and forth to get the information.

Please contact Engineering & Quality Manager Bob Zipperer at [bob.zipperer@proplating.com](mailto:bob.zipperer@proplating.com) with questions on RFQ submissions.