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## Safety's Sweet Reward!

▲ We start this quarter's newsletter with a safety streak that can only happen when every member of our Team is focused and believes that their workspace needs to be kept neat and organized. Additionally, it is our culture that if anyone sees something askew, it is everyone's responsibility to set it straight.



The Team at Professional Plating hit **ONE YEAR** of safe work in **November 2022!** This is defined as "no recordable accidents", which are those that require outside medical care. This is quite an accomplishment in a manufacturing setting with over 200 Team Members and lots of moving machines, forklifts, etc.

In honor of this accomplishment, our Team enjoyed some amazing cupcakes provided by "Cupcake Wonders" out of Sheboygan Falls [www.cupcakewonders.com](http://www.cupcakewonders.com).

As a note, our streak continues, as we are now at over 450 days without a recordable accident!

## Fall Fundraiser

▲ Recurring readers of our quarterly newsletter may recall the success we have when we hold internal bucket raffles. Our last fundraiser held in October was no exception! Proceeds from this raffle were earmarked to be used for holiday shopping through the Adopt A Family program, and thru our local law enforcement who provide us with a family to support. Our success comes from the graciousness of our Team Members who donated items for the raffle, and those who purchased tickets. The event raised over \$3,100.00!

Included on our "Raffle Day" we also recognized breast cancer awareness with our annual "Wear Pink" day, and brought in food for the Team, catered by Neighborhood Grill & Pub. The meal was capped off with dessert provided by the ATW Ice Cream Express. The truck provided free cold treats as a Thank You for a donation made by Professional Plating to the "Pulling for Honor" event benefiting the veteran's Honor Flights program.



## Future PPI'ers?

▲ Professional Plating played host to 45 students from Chilton Elementary School on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Busses dropped off groups of 5<sup>th</sup> graders who came to Brillion to tour several businesses as part of their Science curriculum.



A metal finishing and painting business has no shortage of “cool science stuff” to impress young students. During the tour, points of interest included how heat, electricity and chemicals are used in cleaning and finishing metal parts. Our in-house tour guides also took the opportunity to inject commentary on our Culture Points and Expectations that apply to young and old alike. It’s never too early to teach these “Mini Millennials” what to expect when they are ready to join the work force.

## Coats for Kids

▲ In the opinion of the Editor of this newsletter, the weather this Winter season has been quite mild. I say that only because we’ve had very few days of sub-zero temperatures! Never the less, when the thermometer reads highs only reaching the 20’s, it’s time to bundle up!



Many families in Calumet County are very grateful to the generous Team at Professional Plating for donating 90 coats this year that were then distributed to children in our area thru the local Salvation Army.

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

Specialty Coatings  
Acrylic E-coat  
Barrel Zinc  
Epoxy E-Coat  
Powder Coat  
Pro-Advantage  
Pro-Dura Clear  
Rack Zinc  
GM Approval  
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## Team Member Spotlight

Crystal Hedrich  
Shipping Clerk



▲ My career at PPI started back in 2004 while I was in high school, working part time. After I graduated, I took on a fulltime position in Epoxy Ecoat. A few years later, I moved to our Powder Paint department and worked as an Inspector, and then moved to Material Handling as a forklift driver. In June 2014, I started training as a back up to the shipping clerk and was later promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> shift Shipping Clerk which is my current role at PPI.

I met my husband Jacob when he worked here. We will be married nine years in October. Along with Jacob's 11-year-old daughter Lily, we have two beautiful children together Aiden, age 10 and Zoey, age 5. We have two fur babies, Jax and Rudy, and a bearded dragon. We love to be outdoors going snowmobiling, fishing, four wheeling, camping and much more.

I have been part of the PPI family for a long time and have learned so many things by working here. I really enjoy working in shipping because no day is ever the same. The best feeling is when you can call the customer a day or two ahead of time and tell them their parts are ready.

## A Bag of Thanks

▲ Life gets busy, so it's refreshing that on one day every November we pause for a day to "give thanks". Many businesses close, students have the day off of school and families gather for Thanksgiving. In addition to food and festivities, the day is meant to reflect on blessings.



Team Members at Professional Plating left for the Thanksgiving holiday with a "Bag of Thanks" filled with goodies from Woldt's Farm Store, Faris Gourmet Popcorn & Treats, and Miesfeld's Triangle Market.



This was just one more way to let our Team know how much we appreciate them and the effort that they bring to work with them every 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)

## Lunch is on Us

▲ The Brillion Police Department received some "Blue Christmas" money from the Shop with a Cop program shortly before Thanksgiving. The department decided to use this money to pay off all outstanding student lunch balances at the public and parochial schools within their jurisdiction (the City of Brillion and the Village of Reedsville). The amount needed was more than the funds they had, so Professional Plating joined forces with the BPD to get these accounts paid off.



The Team at Professional Plating was happy to support this opportunity to help those families who are feeling the pinch to their budget during these difficult economic times.

## The Joy of Giving

▲ There never seems to be a shortage of people in need of our help. We offered several opportunities for our Team to "give" during this past holiday season.



### **FOOD DRIVE -**

Our annual collection of food items to restock the shelves at the local St Vincent DePaul food panty was a huge success! Over 2,000 items were donated causing the volunteers from the food panty to bring extra vehicles to haul it all. Professional Plating also donated \$300 for the Society to use to purchase meat items for pantry patrons.

### ***KIDS 2 KIDS CHRISTMAS -***

Kapco Metal Stampings in Grafton has organized an awesome annual holiday event going back to 2006. One part of this holiday event is a toy collection. Since the program began, over 290,000 toys have been collected and distributed to families in need to ensure they have a memorable holiday.

For the second year in a row, the Professional Plating family has assisted with the toy collection.



## **BELL RINGING -**

The familiar Salvation Army Red Kettle, present at many grocery and big box stores during the holiday season, held company with 28 Professional Plating Team Members who filled 23 one-hour spots. This giving opportunity differs from others in that it does not cost any money; just time. As you will see on the pictures below, our Team Members who donate their time do so with family and friends. The kids especially love to ring the bells!



## **...Oh What Fun...**

▲ In anticipation of a visit from the Jolly 'Ol Man in the Red Suit, the Team at Professional Plating participated in holiday festivities during the week of December 12<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, the Team was decked out in Holiday Socks and/or headwear. Tuesday was Holiday PJ Day. Extreme Red/Green Day was on Wednesday and Thursday was Ugly Holiday Sweater Day. All of that led up to our Holiday Celebration on Thursday which included a catered meal from Cobblestone Creek and photos with Santa.

The PPI Elves on Santa's "Nice" list (which of course included all of the PPI Team Members), received \$150 in gift cards into their holiday stocking!





## **A Focus on Supporting Future Service!**

▲ As we move into 2023, we have completed another year of major capital outlays and constant continuous improvement. With the successful installation and startup of our new Rack Line 6 we have now spent \$13 million in the last six years on updating every rack plating line that we use to serve your needs and lead the zinc plating industry!

Our team has grown to over 200 Team Members and we are very proud of their efforts to accept cross training opportunities. Their interest in working very flexibly has allowed us to successfully help our customers to navigate through 2022 and the somewhat inconsistent market cycles we continue to see.

Our plate of future growth is fully loaded! We have new equipment projects currently under review for both Ecoat and barrel zinc plating. We are continuing to invest in our team and our processes to insure your future service needs are met in "Top Shop" style.

2023 also sees us continuing to review new operating software options to look to make gains and improvements into cloud-based systems and for better day-to-day information processing which will enable faster through order to shipment efforts, to help you reduce your lead times for the future.

We are thankful for our customer base. The over 400 customers who in 2022 got a taste of the "Top Shop sauce" are truly the best of the best. We are proud of our associations within all major manufacturer sectors and welcome your challenges to help you meet your market needs. We are proud of continuing to advance the bar for our competitors on quality levels that job shops typically target as a goal. Today over 35% of every day's production ships direct to the end user, meaning that all the customer does is send a bill. We truly appreciate the trust that our customer place in us to "put their name on it"!



**We would love to host you and your team for a face to face tour, and we always welcome any benchmarking inquiries to review the how and why Professional Plating is what it is, and what makes us the true "Top Shop" in North America.**

**Here's to a successful 2023 that we TOGETHER can meet head on. We will continue to meet your current needs while taking you to the best future place we can ever imagine for you our customer!**

**Larry Dietz  
General Manager**

The text "Happy New Year!" is displayed in a large, bold, black, serif font. The text is centered and surrounded by several colorful firework bursts in shades of green, blue, and yellow. The firework bursts are positioned behind the letters, creating a festive and celebratory atmosphere.

**Happy  
New Year!**