Proto Manufacturing, located in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, is a manufacturer of short-run, high-precision, functional prototypes for the medical, electronics and motorsports industries. Proto Manufacturing machines parts from aluminum, steel, copper, brass, stainless steel, titanium, and most plastics. They also have experience with exotic materials including Ultem, Torlon, and tungsten alloys.

Started in 2009, the founder of the company, Todd Reith, based his business on the principle of delivering more than what the customer asks for in the promised time frame. One of the ways Todd accomplishes this is through a very thorough quality control (QC) system. "We have a full inspection system in the shop. We don’t just check parts. We use a Statistical Process Control (SPC) system to monitor changes during machining, in real-time, at every step of the process. In addition, we have full traceability for each part. Material mill certifications, engineering prints, tooling, and machining operations are linked to each part revision and lot, while holding tolerances up to 1/10,000."

"We call on Proto Manufacturing for high-precision parts that we can trust on the race track."

Harry Reynolds
Parts Manager
Penske Racing Inc.
"When I started my business, I chose to work with two CAM packages: VisualMILL and Mastercam," stated Reith. "After two years of trying to use both, I made the decision to use VisualMILL exclusively." According to Reith, he and his crew found that VisualMILL was much easier to use, had more efficient tool paths, and was just as accurate as Mastercam. "Ultimately I found that I could offer my customers a better product when I used VisualMILL." Proto Manufacturing uses a Mazak Quick-Turn lathe and a Haas VF2 SS vertical machining center with a 4th axis.

"I have to be very thorough and detail oriented, because lives are at stake.

Todd Reith
Owner
Proto Manufacturing.

One of Proto Manufacturing’s customers is Penske Racing, Inc., a leader in motor sports racing. "Penske continues to use our services because they need their job done right, the first time", stated Reith. "With Indy cars racing at average speeds over 200 mph, there isn’t room for error so it is imperative that our parts are made correctly."
Bottom Line Results

Among the three IZOD IndyCar Series drivers that Penske sponsors, Will Power, Ryan Briscoe and Helio Castroneves, they have a total of six top 10 finishes. Of the four races this season, Will started first in the poles and placed in the top ten in all four, and took the checkered flag at the Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama and Sao Paulo Indy 300. Presently, Will Power is the overall IZOD IndyCar points leader for the 2011 season.

Proto Manufacturing delivers high quality parts with an attention to detail, adherence to tight tolerance, and within short delivery timelines.

Harry Reynolds
Parts Manager
Penske Racing Inc.

Beyond Racing

In addition to the work they do with auto racing, Proto Manufacturing produces parts for the US military, medical device and musical instrument companies. “The machining disciplines we have in place carry over to the other industries,” states Reith. “I only like to make a part once. VisualMILL allows us to simulate the cut, before we start cutting at the machines. Across all customers/industries, VisualMILL is an integral part of our quality control system.”

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