MADE IN AMERICA IS GREAT FOR DISTRIBUTORS

GREGG FUTEY, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT, WRIGHT

As the trend of nearshoring continues to gain momentum, more companies are turning to Americanmade products, especially in the tool industry. For 98 years, Wright has been producing high-quality, American-made tools in Barberton, Ohio.

Throughout our history, we've remained dedicated to serving the industrial distribution markets, with a clear focus on product quality and consistency. This dedication is particularly important in today's rapidly changing landscape, where companies are looking for ways to mitigate the risks of overseas supply chains, such as rising shipping costs, longer wait times, and logistical disruptions. By manufacturing in the USA all under one roof in our Barberton facility, we've been able to offer a distinct

advantage - faster turnaround times and the ability to meet the demands of our customers quickly. Our agility is critical to keeping projects on track and ensuring that professionals in the field have access to the tools they need when they need them.

URIGHT



At Wright, we provide our distributors a firsthand look at the competitive advantages that manufacturing under one roof in Ohio creates. We do this by hosting factory tours that place an emphasis on our Perfecting Performance Quality Process, which incorporates Wright's proprietary steel alloys, precision forging, and advanced design features. We believe in educating our distributors through

these tours and by providing training on Wright's products.

Nearshoring offers a significant benefit by providing quicker delivery times, ensuring that workers can meet deadlines on jobsites without delay. At Wright, we pride ourselves on delivering tools to our customers, with 98% order fulfillment in less than two days. Our ability to fulfill orders is a key part of our promise to meet customer needs. Just as important is our commitment to producing the industry's highest-quality tools made right here in the USA. By staying

true to our values, Wright continues to play a vital role in supporting professionals and contributing to the growth and rebuilding of America.



HELPING CUSTOMERS ACHIEVE 5S LEAN SUCCESS

JOHNNY BASSO, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, SONIC TOOLS USA INC.

In today's industrial landscape, those that have adopted or are in the process of implementing 5S lean principles (sort, set in order, shine, standardize, sustain the cycle), never quite finish the 5S equation. The final piece of the 5S puzzle in workplace efficiency is tool management and control, which is mission critical to achieving a highly efficient work environment and can provide additional sales opportunities for distributors and suppliers.

At Sonic, efficiency is rooted in tool organization. One critical piece is the Sonic Foam System, where each tool's location is precisely shadowed in durable, chemicalresistant foam, complemented by numerical identifiers that facilitate effective organization, tool control, and inventory management. The systematic approach is remarkably effective, with independent time studies revealing significant improvements compared to traditional inventory practices: tool retrieval and return times are 20% faster, misplaced tools can be reduced by up to 80%, and toolbox inventory is completed 78% faster.

Workplace efficiency can be enhanced through a comprehensive serialization and custom-etching program, one of the best methods of addressing cross

contamination among shared toolboxes. Sonic recommends that all industrial customer toolsets include serialization and custom laser-etching on both toolsets and individual foams. Customization promotes technician accountability and prevents tool cross contamination within workshop environments, directly supporting the "standardize" and "sustain" principles of 5S methodology.

Customers can also adopt inventory control folders comprising all managed toolsets. This meticulous tracking system marks each tool's location and part number, creating a robust framework for asset management while reducing the risk of loss or cross contaminating, supporting the "sort" and "set in order" principles while providing a clear audit trail.

By implementing these organizational methods, industrial customers can achieve substantial reductions in downtime caused by missing or misplaced tools, leading to increased efficiency and productivity. These methods also facilitate enhanced accountability and contamination prevention, create a more organized, productive, and professional working environment.

HIGH QUALITY, RELIABLE STARRETT HAND TOOLS

CHARLIE STARRETT, PRODUCT MANAGER, SAWS & HAND TOOLS, THE L.S. STARRETT COMPANY

The need for dependable, high quality hand tools is greater than ever. For over 140 years, industrial distributors and end-users have relied on The L.S. Starrett Company to manufacture and provide a wide range of precise and trusted hand tools. Starrett has earned a reputation as the "World's Greatest Toolmakers," a standing the company is committed to continuing.

Miter Protractors are ideal for all building trades that require the measuring and transferring of angles. Miter Protractors take error-prone calculations out of the process of miter cuts. A miter cut scale transfers readings directly to the miter saw for miter joints. Part of the popular Starrett ProSite 505 Protractor family, the 505P-7 7-inch Miter Protractor is ideal for carpenters, plumbers and all building trades that require the measuring and transferring of angles, miter cuts as well as being exceptionally helpful for DIY'ers. The series also includes the Starrett 12inch Aluminum Combination Protractor which provides 5-in-1 functionality with the ability to perform miter cuts, single cuts, act as a protractor or roof pitch, and offers a compound cut conversion table.

Starrett Utility Knives are ideally suited for the professional contractor's cutting requirements. The Starrett Exact® Plus Hidden Edge-Retractable Blade Utility Knife has a trapezoidal blade that stays safely tucked away when not in use, and also works with hook blades. An easy-to-use safety lock and lever allows the blade to be exposed instantly. Starrett Exact Plus Utility Knives also include a folding knife with an aluminum die-cast body using a trapezoidal or hook blade.

Starrett jobsite hand tools include Pocket Scribers featuring a knurled

and nickel plated steel handle. The scriber point is finely tapered for precise positioning and a hexagonshaped head prevents the tool from rolling. Adjustable Jaw Cut Nippers feature a special design including heat-treated steel frames for strength that provides powerful leverage for efficient and clean cutting.



