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LV Swiss Wins The Prestigious 'Rural Utah Business Of The Year' Award Using State-Of-The-Art Technology



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LV Swiss Is Honored With The Prestigious ‘Utah’s Rural Business Of The Year’ For 2023

If you have done business with LV Swiss, it should come as no surprise that the Governor of Utah’s Office of Economic Development (GOED) awarded

LV Swiss the prestigious **“Utah’s Rural Business of the Year for 2023”**.

The GOED award recognizes companies in Utah’s 25 rural counties for their outstanding achievement, growth, impact in their community, job creation and innovation. LV Swiss has been nothing short of stellar in all of these categories, and the **longevity of their employees is a tribute to this, with 25% having worked for the company for more than 10 years.**



Darren, Richard, and Paul Jr.

LV Swiss’ success dates back to 2009, when the privately held high tech contract manufacturing company was founded by the 3 owners, Paul Klein Jr., CEO; Darren Hatch, CFO; and Richard Hoffman,

President. Each brought unique expertise to the new entity. Paul Jr. has extensive knowledge of running large corporations in Silicon Valley, Darren brought an invaluable software/technology design background, and Richard had the vast knowledge required to run a precision machine company. The complimentary skillsets each of the founders brought to the start-up is instrumental to the company’s success.

The manufacturing entity, based in Southern Utah, in the city of LaVerkin (near the entrance of Zion National Park), offers Swiss Screw machining, precision CNC machining, milling, turning, custom prototyping, centerless grinding and customized tooling on demand.

It is AS9100, ISO13485 (for medical device customers), and ISO9001: 2015 certified, and its ITAR Registration enables the company to do business with US Government entities.

These certifications have all facilitated LV Swiss’s ability to engage with a number of Fortune 500 companies in the Medical, Aerospace & Defense, Communications/RF Connectors and Industrial Products. Several customers rely on LV Swiss for their precision, small



(diameters starting from .018), and high precision (+/- .0002) parts, ranging from prototype to production.



All 3 owners remain active in the company today, and they have assembled a team of managers to run the day to day operations. Paul Klein III, North American Sales and Marketing Manager, joined the

company more than 2 years ago, bringing sales, marketing, industrial distribution and general management expertise from his previous employers. Jeff Christiansen, Director of Operations, came to the company over a decade ago, armed with a strong manufacturing background, and with expertise in the medical device field. In his previous employment, Jeff had substantial experience in Swiss Screw machining which has proven to be a major asset to LV Swiss. Compliance Manager Suzann Christiansen brings 30+ years of expertise in the medical device manufacturing industry, and today, she not only manages compliance with all certification programs, but Paul III commented that “She is flawless in raw material management.”

Paul Jr. (CEO) commented, “We are a cost effective supplier to many large corporations, and this is facilitated by our location in Southern Utah, which affords us lower cost production and support. Even so, we intuitively recognize that we must do more for our customers than our competitors do if we expect them to continue to partner with us and to help us to achieve our growth strategy. We must deliver high quality parts at a competitive price to our customers; we must deliver them faster and more seamlessly than others do. It has to be easy to do business with LV Swiss.”

Richard (President) indicated that, “We’ve added equipment, software, and warehouses to shorten our delivery times and improve our control of the manufacturing process. As an example, we have an in-house toolmaker who supports our customers who need custom tooling to build their parts.



Our centerless grinding capabilities mean that LV Swiss can grind raw material to a customized size rather than wait for the raw material vendors to do this. Our local warehouses enable us to maintain substantial inventory of materials – which proved invaluable to our customers during and after COVID when material shortages were rampant.”

Jeff adds, “Our purchase of the 2 Haas Mills meant that our customers using our Swiss Screw machining services didn’t have to go to another supplier to get their parts CNC machined.” He continues, “We have long term contracts in place with a number of our large customers, which can afford them JIT inventory, Kanban and a consignment programs.”

Jeff says that a few years ago, several of LV Swiss’ customers changed their ordering patterns to more JIT. “Instead of 50,000 piece orders, we were seeing more frequent, lower volume orders, often in the low thousands. As our Swiss type machines with automatic bar loaders are optimized for large quantities, we had to rethink the Swiss machines that would support this new business model.” Jeff is the resident

Swiss Screw machine expert at LV Swiss, and he knew from years of working with the Star Swiss type automatic lathes that they were an ideal machine brand for smaller quantities. Today, 13 of the 20 LV Swiss’ Swiss Screw machines are manufactured by Star. Jeff says, “Where in the past we could do 4-5 set-ups per week with our older machines, with our newer Star machines we are doing 15-20 set-ups in the same timeframe.” In addition, LV Swiss utilizes Tornos/Deco Machines for High Volume, tight tolerance, small diameter parts.

Today, lead times at LV Swiss are exceptional — truly better than the industry standard.

Based on LV Swiss’s sophisticated Software Systems and Quality Performance Tools, LV Swiss performs at the highest levels of the largest companies in the world. Today, many of their customers trust them with real time access to their portals, and LV Swiss has visibility to when their parts are being used, which then signals the company to build more parts to replenish the inventory. They also built an In-house tailored MRP system which is routinely applauded in its sophistication by LV Swiss’ customers.

The LV Swiss Quality Management System is another key differentiator for its customers. Darren (CFO) says, “We offer fully integrated in-process ‘Critical to Quality’ (CTQ) labs, as well as fully compliant AS9102 First Article reporting. Our Quality Department utilizes such equipment as Keyence Optical Comparators, Hexagon CMM, hardness testers, and laser micrometers.”

The GOED Award includes a key metric of ‘Impact to the Community’ in its awards criteria. LV Swiss recognizes its responsibility and opportunity to both give back to



Jeff and Paul III

the community and to help to fill the pipeline of next generation machinists. As such, both Jeff and Suzann are members of a Southern Utah Manufacturing Association, with Jeff as Vice President. The company also has donated machines and materials to the Dixie Technical College in St. George, Utah, where both Paul Jr. and Jeff participate on the Advisory Board.

Paul III commented “What sets LV Swiss apart from the competition? We are not just a CNC / Mill Machine Shop. We are a high-tech, advanced CNC and Mill Machine Shop with technicians who deliver the highest quality parts. Our advanced in-house software technology gives real-time, up to date information on the progress of every part. It traces the manufacturing of a part from drawing to engineering to manufacturing to shipping, and finally to delivery.”

LV Swiss is honored to be this year’s GOED’s Utah’s Rural Business of the Year recipient. If you haven’t done business with them, you should make the call to see what they can do for you. Prepare to be delighted with high quality precision parts short lead times, delivered at a competitive prices. For more information, contact them at: (435) 635-1482 or visit LVSwiss.com.