



# THE AEROSPACE

# RACE

*With almost 70 years' experience, Pryer Aerospace is a highly skilled producer and manufacturer of aerospace structural components and assemblies. With headquarters in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the company maintains a positive relationship with the community and utilises its resources to help those in need. CEO of Pryer Aerospace, Jeff Landreth, and Manager of ESG and Training, Cayla Brumble discussed the company's success and sustainability processes with Imogen Ward.*

Pryer Aerospace was founded in 1965 by W. E. Pryer. Originally specialising in metal forming, the company has since broadened its reach in the aerospace industry. With 130 employees and an impressive span of 180,000 square feet in facilities, the company has fully utilised its forming, machining, and assembly capabilities and assets to lead the way in aerospace production.

Whilst continuing to incorporate the values set by Mr Pryer and maintaining the company's roots in innovation, Pryer Aerospace has worked hard to diversify to meet customer demand.

### Innovative investment

Upholding a 'warrior mentality', Pryer Aerospace continuously strives to be the best in the market. Since 2015, the

company has added a lot of new capabilities to ensure its competitiveness within the market. "This investment in new technology and capabilities," Jeff Landreth, CEO of Pryer Aerospace said, "has resulted in a projection of double the sales in the last 12 months."

Exemplifying variety and specialism, the company implemented hot forming to retain its lead in the market. Being one of the select few companies that is certified for the service, Pryer Aerospace has been successfully executing this process since 2017.

In the past three years, the company has also branched out into the space market. This diversification has enabled Pryer to stay ahead of the game: the company's extensive facilities have enabled it to expand into the production of large, ▾





# THE ADAPTION *Team* OF *aerospace*

*Embracing change is the secret of Harcourt Industrial's success. Having moved from continent to continent and switched industries, the company's manufacturing engineering prowess is flying high as a Tier 1 supplier to the aerospace elite. President Rob Beardmore talked to Andy Probert about how tragedy, chance, innovation and determination have defined Harcourt's business path.*



Harcourt Industrial President  
Rob Beardmore

Staying forever in a fixed position, particularly in business, can only mean one thing: demise. That's why adaption appears Harcourt Industrial's trump card. From its name to the innovative tooling products it engineers, the company is forever flexible to the trends and demands of the industry.

Present-day Harcourt is a Detroit, Michigan-based engineering innovation specialist dedicated to devising quality aerospace tooling and precision assembly solutions.

Harcourt's technology is utilised by OEMs that dominate the aerospace sector. It offers tooling solutions designed to improve the manufacturing process when curing and machining composite parts, assembling airframe structures and drilling in final assembly.

As President Rob Beardmore elaborated: "We empower clients to repurpose and reuse their tooling innovations and solutions. With previous tooling designs, when they were no longer wanted, or a design change was needed, they have been incapable of adaption, and scrapped. That's why there's a large sustainability ethos behind our products."

## Patented technologies

He explained: "In the automotive and aerospace industries, assembly jigs are large, custom, permanent structures that are costly to design and build. They are usually one of the highest non-reoccurring costs at the start of a manufacturing project.

"Manufacturers are often under increasing pressure to reduce non-reoccurring costs, reduce time-to-market of products, and improve the capacity and utilisation of their tooling."

Harcourt's flagship is BoxJoint, a unique, patented technology that offers an 80% reduction in hard tooling costs, 50% reduction in lead times, and a significant decrease in tooling modification costs and project delays.

The system is an arrangement of beams and joints, which forms a framework. There are no welds between the connecting pieces in the system. Instead, the parts are fixed together using the force of friction.

Harcourt HBOX units are used to join standard beams to form the framework of the jig. The framework is set to a loose tolerance facilitating a quick assembly process and using standard low-cost beams. ▽