Precision Metal Stampings and Assemblies
In the United States and Mexico
From Prototype to Production Since 1937
A Tradition of Quality and Excellence

IMS Buhrke-Olson was formed when IMS Companies, LLC combined the resources of two industry-leading metal stamping companies — Buhrke Industries, LLC and Olson International, LTD — to form an organization that is a premier source for tooling, custom stamping, and mechanical assembly in North America.

Both Buhrke Industries and Olson International were begun as tool and die shops based on an old-world tradition of craftsmanship. Buhrke, established in 1949 and Olson, begun in 1937, grew over the years to include metal stamping and assembly services. As early adaptors of the latest in metal stamping technology, the combined companies continue to lead the industry in the development of sophisticated automated assembly systems and the use of in-die sensors, as well as outstanding quality performance, customer service and technical and engineering support.

As part of the IMS group of companies, IMS Buhrke-Olson has access to capital from a strong parent company allowing for investment in new processes and facilities as required for customer support. Working together with the other contract manufacturing operations in the IMS group, the list of value added services available through IMS Buhrke-Olson includes fabrication of sheet metal components and enclosures, special machining, wire harness and cable assemblies, as well as sub-component assembly for leading manufacturers in the automotive, appliance, electronics, medical and industrial equipment industries.
What Makes IMS Buhrke-Olson Special?

IMS Buhrke-Olson believes that the ideal custom metal stamping contract manufacturing supplier is cost-competitive while offering a full range of engineering support services, from prototype to production. It also has the latest and most efficient equipment and processes, and offers manufacturing services in convenient, low-cost locations. IMS Buhrke-Olson provides all of these things with the utmost quality and efficiency.

- World class technical and engineering services supported by the latest CAD software including AutoCAD™, CATIA V5™, Pro/ENGINEER™, SolidWorks™, EDS Unigraphics™, and FASTFORM Advanced (FTI).
- Certified in all locations to TS 16949, ISO9001:2000, and ISO 14001.
- Manufacturing locations in Arlington Heights, IL and Downers Grove, IL, as well as in Matamoros, Tamps. and Monterrey, N.L., Mexico.
- Innovative design engineering support for product development, tool design and project management.
- Progressive die tool design and build in both U.S. and Mexico, as well as tool sourcing from low-cost countries.
- More than 80 stamping presses ranging from 30 to 600 tons, strategically located to support customer stamping requirements from any manufacturing location.
- Extensive experience in the design, development and installation of semi and fully automated assembly systems — welding, joining, component insertion in-die and off line.

Customers have many times recognized and awarded IMS Buhrke-Olson for the company’s outstanding service. Recent awards include Delphi’s Above and Beyond Pinnacle Award, ISI Takata’s Quality First Award, SIEMENS VDO Performance Award awarded back-to-back (making IMS Buhrke-Olson the only North American stamper to receive this award), the Precision Metalforming Association’s (PMA) R.D. Pritchard-Higgins Design Award and a host of other recognitions from companies such as Chrysler, Eaton Controls, S.C. Johnson and others.
Capabilities: Stamping, Tooling, and Assembly

**Manufacturing** - Over eighty presses ranging from 30 to 600 tons capable of running up to 1,500 SPM are strategically positioned within the U.S. and Mexican manufacturing locations resulting in a uniform offering across all plants. All locations feature the state-of-the-art sensor technology for the protection of tools, as well as advanced maintenance systems to ensure the availability and reliability of every piece of equipment. Continuing investment in new equipment and press room technology keeps IMS Buhrke-Olson up-to-date in adopting the latest metal stamping manufacturing processes.

**Secondary Operations** – IMS Buhrke-Olson provides customers with finished parts packaged to customer specifications. Among the services in the range of secondary and finishing options are: heat treating, plating, powder coating, anodizing, annealing, passivating, lapping & grinding, E-coating, deburring, cleaning, tapping and rust prevention. Other services such as wet and dry painting, machining and wire and cable harness assembly are available within the IMS group of companies as intercompany work transfers.

**Progressive Die Building Capability Both in Mexico and the U.S.** – The total tool room staff of 70-plus non-union journeyman toolmakers represents an invaluable resource in terms of experience, skills and capabilities. The staff is nearly evenly divided between U.S. and Mexican operations. All toolmakers have been qualified through extensive training and certification programs.
Capabilities: Stamping, Tooling, and Assembly

Automation – IMS Buhrke-Olson employs both fully and semi-automated systems to perform spot welding, contact welding, TOX™ locking, toggle locking and fastener insertion. Processes typically involve combining IMS Buhrke-Olson produced metal stampings as well as fasteners, adhesives, rubber, plastic, composites and other parts into a finished or semi-finished assembly. The company is best known for the automated assembly of high volume components: items such as automotive airbag modules, entertainment system chassis, electronic engine control units and complicated bracket assemblies. Automation systems are completely designed and built in-house. Semi-automated systems, such as stud welds or fastener insertion done off-line, are especially applicable for production of parts in IMS Buhrke-Olson’s low-cost manufacturing locations.
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Prototypes – The quality and reliability of prototypes are critical to test and meet design requirements during new product development. IMS Buhrke-Olson offers early engineering involvement to provide complete prototype sourcing supported by full CAD/CAM capabilities utilizing EDS Unigraphics™, SolidWorks™, Pro/ENGINEER™ and AutoCAD™. For advanced product analysis, IMS Buhrke-Olson utilizes additional tools including strain form analysis, photolithography and FASTFORM Advanced.

Engineering – The IMS Buhrke-Olson staff of design, tooling, quality and project engineers consists of more than 30 experienced and professional technical people. Besides prototyping, engineering support includes tooling development, design, process design and production efficiency improvements throughout the product life cycle. IMS Buhrke-Olson uses an integrated CAD to CMM/DCC interface and internet file transfer capability for PRT, IGES, DXF, DWG, JPG and TIF file formats. Total early engineering involvement includes tool design and construction, comprehensive project management, value analysis/value engineering, die, fixture and special equipment design, reverse engineering and additional support in fabrication, machining and special applications engineering through the IMS Companies' broad base and value-added engineering capabilities.

Quality – Every IMS Buhrke-Olson facility is certified as a TS 16949 stamping operation. Other certifications include ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001. IMS Buhrke-Olson helps customers meet strict quality and documentation requirements by providing required reporting services, including: material certifications, statistical data, statistical process control (SPC), minimum Cpk, gage R&R studies, control charts and plans, a quality manual, packaging layout, audit plans, full part layout and ISR, FMEA, APQP and PPAP.
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