

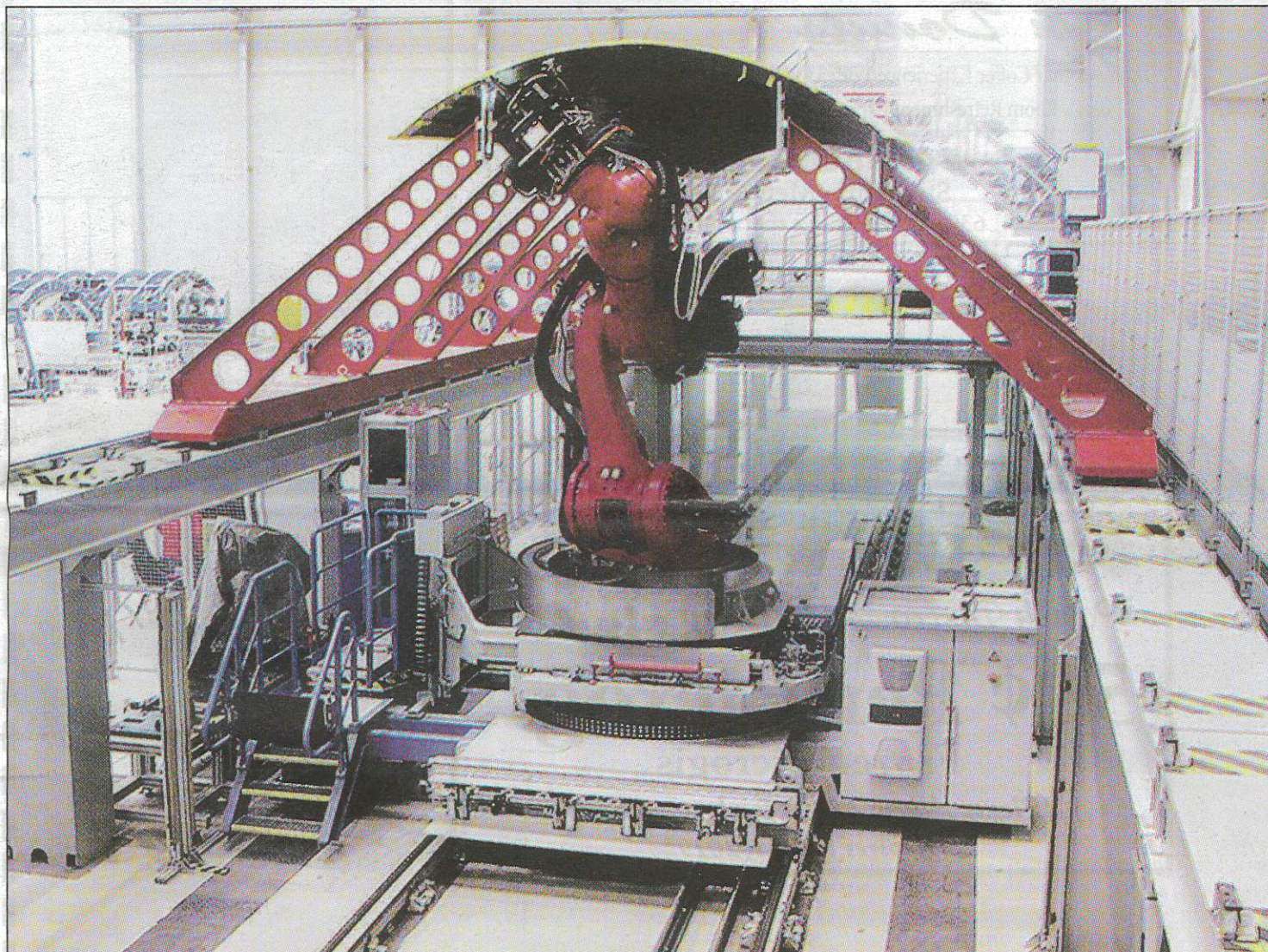
Elk Grove

# BUSINESS JOURNAL

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Serving Elk Grove Village's Business Park, the largest industrial park in America | JULY 2019 | Vol. 5 No. 6



A vertical riveting system used by Broetje Automation, the first tenant announced for the Elk Grove Tech Park. (Broetje Automation photo)

## German Robotics Company Named First Elk Grove Technology Park Tenant

Broetje-Automation Serves Top Aviation Companies, Boeing, Lockheed Martin

By TOM ROBB  
Journal & Topics Reporter

Broetje-Automation, a German-based robotics company for the aerospace industry, will be the first to lease space in the Elk Grove Technology Park for its U.S. headquarters and manufacturing facility, Elk Grove Village officials announced July 1.

The company expects to occupy more than 43,000 square

feet of space in a building on the Higgins Road side of the 1.2 million square foot technology park by October, village officials said. Broetje-Automation spokesman Simon Schmidt told the Journal the company expects to be at full manufacturing capacity in Elk Grove Village within four to five years.

Broetje-Automation makes assembly machines, drills, fasteners and component carriers

for some of the biggest names in the aerospace industry including Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Airbus (in Europe), Gulf Stream and Spirit Aerosystems, which operates in Boeing's supply chain, Schmidt said.

"We are pleased to complete this lease with Broetje and validate the vision for our development: to provide a world class industrial park for high end users in tech-related industries and

those in traditional industries that actively utilize technology within their company," Kevin Brennan, managing principal at Brennan Investment Group said in a written statement.

Broetje-Automation specializes in the "manufacturing and assembly of robotic systems and automated composite manufacturing equipment," Elk Grove Village officials said. Village

(Continued on page 4)

## Moving Right Along

Transient Clients Give Entrepreneur Staying Power

By MELANIE KALMAR  
Special to the Journal

Anticipating a large moving job later in the day, Luis Toledo jokes he'll probably reach 27,000 steps on his Fitbit. At 60 years old, Toledo still labors in the business he launched nearly 38 years ago, Mid-West Moving & Storage, located at 1255 Tonne in the Elk Grove Village Business Park and its newer sister company down the street, Chicago Office Movers. (Continued on page 8)

### TRIVIA CONTEST

In last month's Elk Grove trivia contest, we asked what four towns border Elk Grove Village to the south? The four we were looking for were: Bensenville, Wood Dale, Itasca, Roselle. Medinah is close, but just misses bordering Elk Grove. We received many close answers, but there can only be one winner. Janice Wagner of Elk Grove Village is declared the winner of a \$25 restaurant gift certificate for her correct answer. Let's see if you've been keeping up with recent stories in the Journal & Topics. **How many elk statues are developers expecting to install in the new Elk Grove Technology Park?** Maybe you've seen a few along Higgins Road. Hint: The number is over two-dozen. The first correct guess wins a \$25 gift certificate to a local restaurant. Send answers to [journalnews@journal-topics.info](mailto:journalnews@journal-topics.info). Please include your name and town.



# Made To Last

## Hausner Hard Chrome Celebrates 50 Years In Business

By **MELANIE KALMAR**  
Special to the Journal

In the Elk Grove Village Busi-

ness Park, third and fourth generations of the Hausner family work side by side in their 50-year-old chrome plating business, Hausner

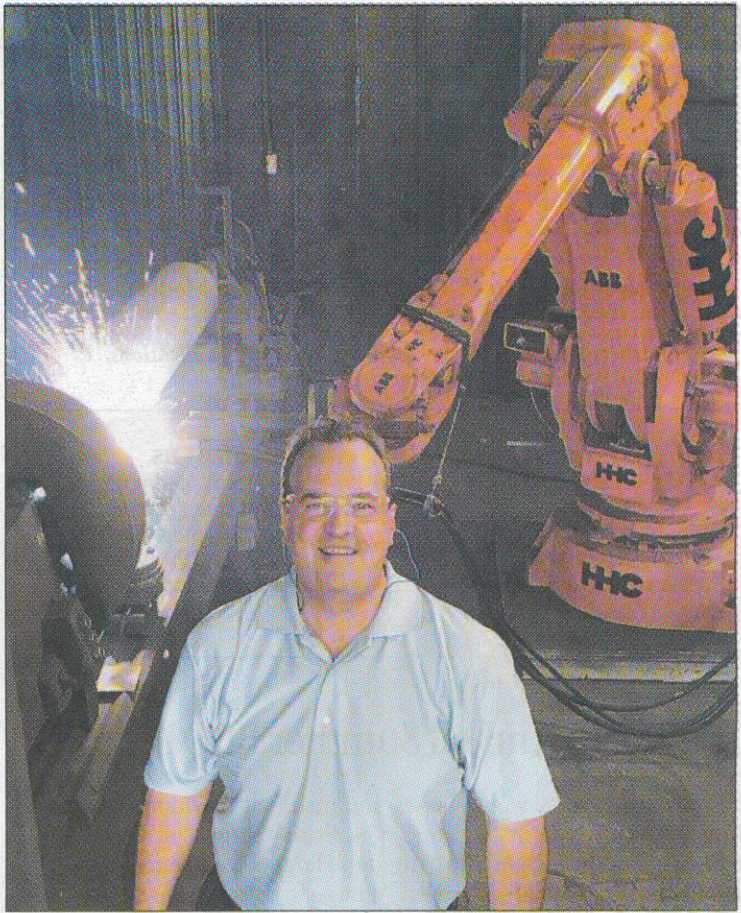
Hard Chrome Inc. The company applies hard chrome plating to new and used machinery parts, for a variety of domestic and global industries, to make them last longer and function better by reducing friction, wear, corrosion, sticking, and damage from chemicals and heat.

Hausner's work can be seen on parts used in manufacturing at power plants, food processing facilities, steel mills, coal preparation plants, offshore oil rigs and more. The company plates metal components as small as dental burs and as large as 75-ton mill rolls.

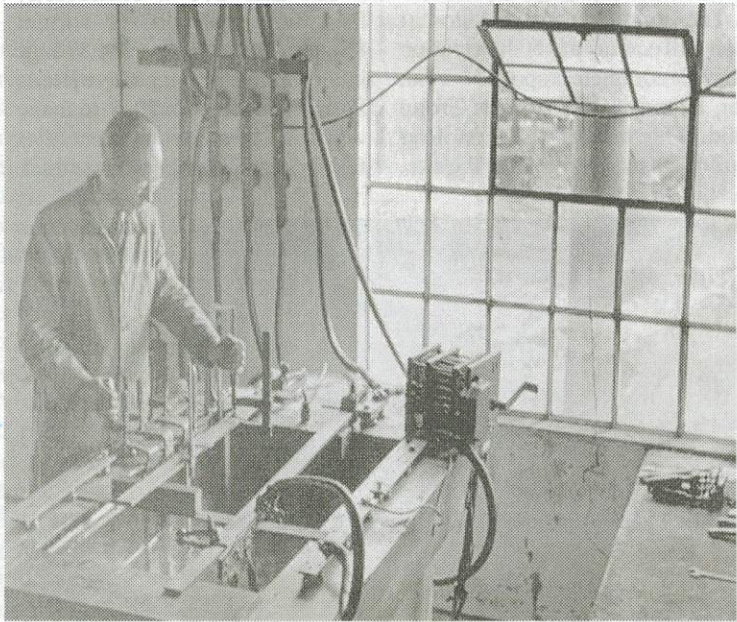
Located at 670 Greenleaf Avenue and several other buildings in town, Hausner has evolved into using thermal sprays that are wear resistant for extending the life of parts and offer corrosive and erosive protection. In the last 20 years, Hausner has developed its onsite business, doing repairs/coatings at clients' facilities to improve and keep their processes going without extended down time.

"From space shuttle hangars at NASA, working on elevator systems, to being at the U.S. Department of the Treasury in Washington, D.C., working on old German presses printing money, we have been to a lot of places to work on unusual components," said CEO David Hausner, son of Wolfgang Hausner, the company's founder. "Innovation is going out and listening to our customers. That is how we got into onsite services and different coatings. The business is based on creatively solving business problems and giving customers the opportunity to make things work better."

The firm's roots go back to David's grandfather Hans in Germany. During World War II, he launched and ran one of the biggest chrome plating companies in the



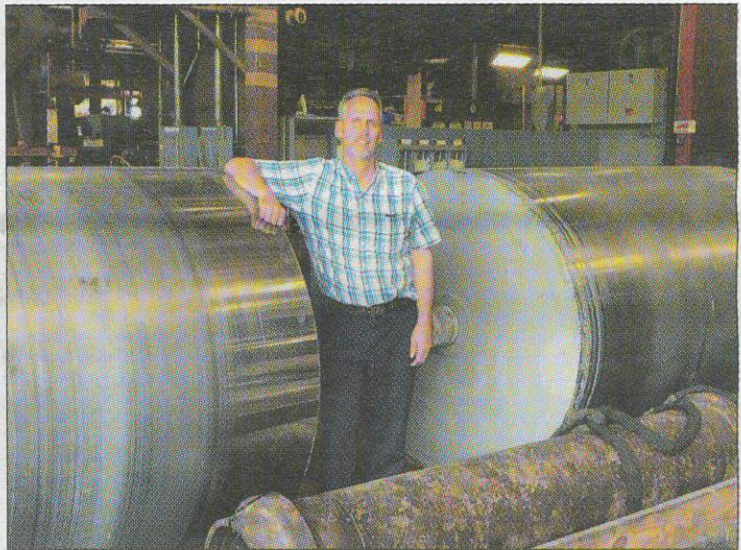
David Hausner, CEO of Hausner Hard Chrome, Inc., runs his 50-year-old family-owned business with his brother Jeff, bottom photo. (Submitted photos)



Engineer and chemist Hans Hausner, the inspiration for Hausner Hard Chrome, Inc., working in his lab.



Wolfgang Hausner, founder of Hausner Hard Chrome, Inc.



country, known for its non-toxic, harder than glass coating that protected industrial items from wearing down. You can actually take a look at his work today. Hans' coatings cover the barrels of the guns that are attached to the U-505 German submarine cur-

rently on display at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. A chemist and engineer, Hans had 54 patents to his name that had nothing to do with chrome plating, he was that creative of an innovator, David said.

(Continued on page 8)

## Trophy Comes Home; Here's Where To Catch It

Elk Grove Village presented the official Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl trophy to the community as a special kick-off to the Mid-Summer Concert Series at the village's Fourth of July Independence Day Concert. This is the first time residents and members of the community had the opportunity to view and take photos of the official Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl trophy and player's helmet.

Elk Grove Village is the title sponsor of

the 2019 Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl that is set to take place on Dec. 20, 2019. Makers Wanted is the tagline that serves as a call-to-action for the village's thriving community and the thousands of businesses that are based here.

December of 2018 was the first time a non-tourist municipality has ever sponsored a bowl game, due to the incredible 40:1 return on investment from the sponsorship.

"The sponsorship of the Makers Wanted

Bahamas Bowl provides the opportunity to continue building the village's reputation globally," said Mayor Craig Johnson, "we are enthusiastic about bringing part of the Bahamas Bowl to share with the Elk Grove Village community."

The Makers Wanted Bahamas Bowl trophy and helmet will be displayed throughout the Mid-Summer Concert Series which takes place every Tuesday in July located at 901 Wellington Avenue.

"We are enthusiastic about bringing part of the Bahamas Bowl to share with the Elk Grove Village community." Mayor Craig Johnson



The Makers Wanted trophy on display at last year's Bahamas Bowl.





Luis Toledo, president and CEO of Mid-West Moving & Storage and its sister company, Chicago Office Movers, got his start in the moving industry as a college student looking to make extra money.

(Photo by Melanie Kalmar)

doing residential moves for apartment dwellers and homeowners on the North Shore. A turning point came in 1990, after he handled moves for a couple of schools that were undergoing asbestos abatement. The work required him to remove everything from the facilities and put it into storage. Realizing how much more lucrative commercial moves were than residential, he began to focus his attention on breaking into that sector. Serendipitously, the first commercial move he booked was for his alma mater, Wright.

Today Toledo operates about 70 pieces of equipment: trucks, tractors and trailers, and has a client-base that is diversified enough to keep him busy year-round. "I'm very passionate about it," he says of the moving business. "It's in my blood."

Mid-West does a lot of work with the U.S. Department of Defense, relocating military families and members of the armed forces. With every move, the company has trained its employees to be on time, treat clients nicely and keep their belongings safe, said Kari-Ann Ryan, the company's corporate brand ambassador.

Every seven years, without fail, Toledo's hotel clients remodel. "We accept the new

furniture, warehouse it and deliver it when the customer is ready," he said. "We set it up, install it, hang up the artwork, put together the beds and set up the rooms in general."

Warehousing is a big part of the business, since the company "decommissions" old furniture. "When an office leases space and decides to move, we remove everything, including the wiring for computers," Toledo said. "We patch up the walls, sweep the floors and leave the space to the landlord in its original condition." Interestingly, commercial clients typically leave behind all of their furniture because they work differently today, in open workspaces, not cubicles, and with many employees occupying a single office rather than one. As part of its green initiative, the company donates the old furniture to local charities and third world countries or scraps the metal and repurposes it. It does the same with furniture discarded by hotels.

Of his three adult children, Toledo's son Niko, 21, is the only one who works in the business. "Always shoot to do the best you can, to keep people happy, to keep your reputation," is his advice to Niko. Clearly, it worked out well for him.

# Acculight

(Continued from page 5)

Sensors are actual hardware, mounted to the fixtures, that enable different functions such as auto dimming and lights turning on or off depending on whether or not a room is occupied. Whereas Artificial Intelligence is embedded into the "Intellibox" device his team is developing. The size of a business card, the Intellibox is fitted into a central management console where everything is monitored. It makes video and image recordings that can be connected to a database of wanted criminals and alert authorities of their whereabouts, based on face recognition and retina scan technology. It can also notify parking lot managers of which lights are out and need to be replaced and allow them, via two-way radio, to let visitors know if they need to move their cars.

Looking around his manufacturing plant, Mootheril is amazed how the company has grown from its incubator space to today. "It came up as an investment opportunity and turned out to be my passion," Mootheril said of the business. Through future acquisitions and global distribution, he plans on expanding his company even further.

# Hausner

(Continued from page 3)

After the war, Hans moved his family to the United States and started another chrome plating business with help from his son Wolfgang, David's father. When Hans retired, Wolfgang became an entrepreneur and founded his own company in 1969, Hausner Hard Chrome Incorporated, carrying on the family tradition of working in the plating business. He introduced his sons, David and Jeff, who oversees marketing and sales for the business, and grandson Kory, who is also employed at the company, to the industry. Retired, Wolfgang is still available to give advice to his family whenever they talk shop.

Between its Owensboro, Kentucky, headquarters and its multiple Elk Grove Village locations, Hausner employs about 150 workers.

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# Arby's Eyes Town Center

A new Arby's restaurant with a drive-through could soon be built in Elk Grove Village's Town Center as trustees approved a request for the plan commission to schedule a public hearing.

The petition came from Michigan-based Team Lyders LLC, which manages Arby's and Taco Bell fast food restaurants in the United States.

If plans move forward, a new building for Arby's would be built in the Elk Grove Town Center at Arlington Heights and Biesterfeld roads. Team Lyders requested a petition for resubdivision for the new restaurant and a special use for the drive-through.

No date has been set for the plan commission meeting. Village board members approved the hearing request at their June 18 meeting.