

PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

# Okay Industries boasts legacy of leadership

By CHARLES PAULLIN  
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NEW BRITAIN — They have been around for more than 100 years and have changed names, but they have always been leaders in their field.

Located at 200 Ellis St., Okay Industries makes parts and assemblies for some of the world's largest medical device OEMs. The manufacturer has a second location in Berlin at 245 New Park Drive. A third location is in Alajuela, Costa Rica.

The business began in 1911 as B. Jahn Manufacturing as a tool and die company.

"In 1968, it changed its name to Okay Industries by its new owner Ed Okay, who had a long Polish last name but shortened it to Okay",



Okay Industries' headquarters at 200 Ellis St., New Britain.

Wesley Bunnell | Staff

your career and discover your greatness," said Tenczar.

Okay has also worked toward training the future workforce by partnering with the Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology Academy at New Britain High School and has partnered with Central Connecticut State University to provide scholarships to students focusing on mechanical or manufacturing engineering.

"That's what we need, more engineering and manufacturing knowledge," said Tenczar.

Okay Industries can be found online at [Okayind.com](http://Okayind.com) and reached at 860-225-8707.

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said President and CEO Jason Howey. Howey's father bought the company with some outside investors in 1990.

Along with the name change came a change in the business to a full-service contract manufacturer. Today it manufactures components and subassemblies for the medical industry, including surgical stapling devices, instruments and implantable pacemakers and defibrillators.

Parts for endoscopic cutters, arthroscopic surgery tools and robotic surgery tools are other components the manufacturer builds. The engineering and innovative driven company

takes pride in the importance of their very complex parts and sets themselves apart from other manufacturers with their attention to precision.

"They're mission critical," said Howey. "If there is a failure, someone's life is at stake."

Okay recently added three research and development labs to help better meet the needs of special customer projects. Plastic molding capabilities have also been added in New Britain and Costa Rica so Okay could become a more vertically integrated supplier and reduce the need for cus-

tomers receiving shipments from multiple vendors.

"We're committed to providing the highest quality and being a trusted partner for our customers," said Michelle Tenczar, vice president of administration and finance.

Throughout the years, the technology-driven company has stayed on top of emerging trends in the industry and made sure its employees are the best and brightest.

"Our recruitment campaign, 'You don't need to be a doctor to save lives,' focuses on our purpose-driven work with small company appeal and the opportunity to develop

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