



Change Language: Choose



Text Size A | A | A

All translations are provided for your convenience by the Google Translate Tool. The publishers, authors, and digital providers of this publication are not responsible for any errors that may occur during the translation process. If you intend on relying upon the translation for any purpose other than your own casual enjoyment, you should have this publication professionally translated at your own expense.

MTI Profile

Tri-City Heat Treat Customer Committed Since 1960

Now just over 50 years old, Tri-City Heat Treat is going stronger than ever.

The company was founded in 1960 by Ralph Damewood, the son of an itinerant farmer who started working at M.A. Ford in 1940. His experience in M.A. Ford's heat-treating department allowed him to open Tri-City, which started with just a few pieces of used equipment.

Nonetheless, the company quickly built a reputation for high-quality heat treating. Its customer base consisted primarily of manufacturers that supplied the local agriculture business.

Disaster struck in 1972 when the original site was destroyed by fire. Undeterred, Ralph Damewood built a 24,000-square-foot facility in Rock Island, Ill., the following year. Tri-City calls that building home to this day.

In 1980, Ron and Gary Damewood took over leadership at Tri-City upon the retirement of their father. The two oversaw a 5,000-square-foot expansion in 1981 that added a new cast-belt hardening furnace. It was this expansion that began Tri-City's partnership with the automotive industry. In 1994, an additional 21,000 square feet was added to the facility along with an additional cast-belt hardening furnace and two mesh-belt draw furnaces.

Ronald (Rick) Damewood Jr. Became president of Tri-City in 2006 after Ron and Gary retired. Rick, who started working at the company in 1974, has held every production and quality job in the facility.

Today, Tri-City serves the auto, agriculture, heavy construction and firearm industries. The company provides a wide range of services that include: age hardening, annealing, carburizing, case hardening, carbonitriding, induction hardening, normalizing, straightening, stress relieving, tempering and vacuum hardening. Tri-City also has a full-service lab and is ISO 9001:2008 certified. Among its vast array of equipment, Tri-City has four induction machines, three straightening presses, one normalizing line, a rotary furnace and a vacuum furnace.

Over the past two years, however, Tri-City has seen explosive growth and demand for its batch internal quench (BIQ) line. The pre-existing 14,900 pounds of capacity was not serving the company's customers with the type of turnaround needed, so the decision was made to expand by adding two new 7,000-pound Surface Combustion-supplied BIQ furnaces. In addition to the new BIQ furnaces, Tri-City also purchased three Uni-draw furnaces, four cooling stations, a 7,000-pound washer, a 12,000- CFH Rx gas generator and other support equipment from Surface Combustion. The company now has eight BIQ furnaces, eight draw furnaces, four cooling stations and two washers.

Under Rick Damewood's leadership, Tri-City has proven its commitment to providing customers with high-quality work at a fair price by investing in new equipment and updating existing equipment. The previously mentioned improvements, as well as a new water tower and Super Systems Inc. controls, brought Tri-City's total investment in modernizing its operation to over \$3.2 million since 2010.

Tri-City will continue to upgrade its facility and equipment to keep at the forefront of heat-treating technology. The company looks forward to exceeding customer expectations by anticipating changes in the industry and adjusting to meet new challenges.

