

# TURI Continuing Education Conference

**UEM** 

November 2019



# **Umicore Electrical Materials USA Inc.**





## **Facts and Figures:**

- Number of Employees in 2017:
  - Glens Falls: 48
  - Attleboro: 40
- Size of owned property in Glens Falls: 30,000 m² (~7.5 acres)
- Attleboro site rented
- Size of Shop Floor:
  - Glens Falls: about 6,500 m<sup>2</sup> (70,000 ft<sup>2</sup>)
- Attleboro: about 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>
  (43000 ft<sup>2</sup>)
- ISO 9001 certified
- ISO 14001 certified <sup>2</sup>



# **UTMNA Products**



## Main Product Groups:

- Contact Materials incl.
  Clad Metals, Tapes, Buttons,
  Absorber Rods, AgCl products
- Brazing Materials

### ■ Main Product Forms:

- Wire (Dia.: 0.01 0.60 inch)
- Strip (Thick.: 0.0007 0.250 inch) (Width: 0.047 – 14.50 inch)
- Rods (Dia.: up to 2 inch) (Length: up to 12 feet)
- Clad Metals/ Tapes/ Buttons (Custom Design)
- Powder and Grain

## Leading US materials producer for technical applications mainly in the Electrical Industry...



Successful as a diversified niche player due to strong opex performance...



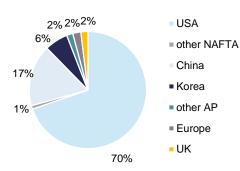
#### Business:

- Leading materials producer of engineered products and solutions for applications used in a variety of growth markets
- Combines in-depth material expertise with advanced engineering and production capabilities to design and manufacture a broad range of highprecision metal components
- Produces predominantly silver-based electrical contact materials, brazing alloys and other specialized metallurgical products, which are typically used in contactors, relays and circuit breakers primarily in the LV market.
- Additionally, the Company produces Silver Chloride for saltwater batteries and has qualified Silver-based Absorber Rod capability for the Nuclear Power Industry

#### Customers:

- More than 150 customers including global OEMs as well as regional specialist players
- Supplies primarily to the NAFTA region, but also serves customers from Europe and Asia Pacific (e.g. China & Korea)
- Output: Approx. 160mt p.a. (of which ~60% silver)
- Organization: Employs approx. 90 people

#### Sales NPM<sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup> by geography



#### Site overview

#### Glens Falls, NY

Attleboro, MA



- Glens Falls site is owned by Umicore
- Casting, extrusion, rolling, wire drawing, bonding and graining
- Serving semi-finished materials to fabricators & OEMs. Also serves as the raw materials supplier for Attleboro

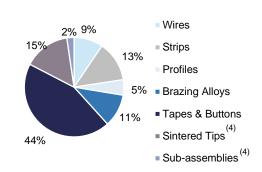
Metal-to-metal bonding.

stamping and form

■ 70,000 sq. ft

rolling

#### Sales NPM<sup>(1)(2)</sup> by product line



#### **Geographical footprint**







## ...with an extensive product range complemented by value-added services...

...complemented by value-added products, services and customer intimacy

#### Selected overview

Manufactured

**Applications** 

Markets

**Products** 

Wires Circuit breakers



Industrial





Strips



**Switches** 



Residential





**Profiles** 

Contactors



mechanical sector



Tooling





Construction & mining





Car components



Sensors & controls





Defense





#### Value-added services

**BESPOKE PRODUCTS, CUSTOMIZATION AND** CO-DEVELOPMENT WITH CUSTOMERS

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR PROBLEM RESOLUTION

**VENDOR MANAGED INVENTORY & KANBAN PROGRAMMES** 

WAREHOUSING & IMPORT/EXPORT LOGISTICS SERVICES

**CUSTOMER PRECIOUS METAL & POOL ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT** 



# **UEM** – we stand for ...

Openness Respect Innovation Teamwork Commitment











## **TURA Chemicals**



- UEM Attleboro has two chemicals of concern.
- Just our luck that both are considered HHS substances
- The facility uses cadmium compounds and Perchloroethylene (PCE)
- The chemical UEM was looking to replace was the PCE
- PCE was used in a PERO vacuum enclosed degreaser
- The machine held 2000 pounds of PCE and the manufacturer's recommendation was that the machine be changed out annually
- This meant that, no matter what, the site would trip for over 1000 pounds of PCE use annually
- After consultation with PERO and tracking usage it was determined that the facility could change out the PCE every 18 months
- The facility would therefore reduce the use of PCE from 6000 pounds to 4000 pounds over 3 years

# **Driver of Change**



- UEM started to look at alternatives to PCE as soon as the facility relocated from RI to MA in the 2010-2011 time frame.
- The PERO machine being used was bought used from a local company in Attleboro that was eliminating a product line that UEM was interested in pursuing.
- Every year after when it was budget time and the EHS department was asked what they needed the answer was a new degreaser.
- The answer was always "it's not in the budget for this year".
- Then the strangest thing happened, in October/November of 2018 when it was budget time EHS asked for a new degreaser.
- The arguments had gotten stronger, the old degreaser was having issues, parts were getting harder to find, the site was spending more annually on upkeep, and lo and behold a new degreaser purchase was approved

## **New Machine**



- The UEM facility decided to stay with the PERO Company and purchased a new degreaser from PERO in the spring of 2019.
- UEM worked with PERO and chemical manufacturer Kyzen to identify a modified alcohol solvent cleaning blend called Metalnox M6386
- This material is non-hazardous, biodegradable organic solvent blend.
- It contains no CFCs or HAPs, and has a flash point of 142 degrees F
- UEM was able to take customer parts down to the PERO facility in CT.
- There the parts were run and sent out for testing to confirm that the cleanliness met required levels
- The parts were tested at both Kyzen and the TURI Lab for comparison to the parts cleaned using the PCE. The results were at least as good and on some tests better that using PCE
- Once the new machine was in place at UEM parts were run and once again sent out to the Kyzen lab to confirm cleanliness. The results were the same as the previous testing

# **Cost Savings**



- It is hard to tell exactly what the cost savings will be since the machine has only been in place for three months
- Cost savings on the chemicals:
  - PCE \$29.40/gallon old 165 gallons = 4851.00
  - Stabilizer to maintain acidity \$964/gallon 2.5 gallons = \$2410.00 yearly
  - Over the past 3 years of use \$7230.00
- Recommended to change annually
  - Metalnox \$34.20/gallon 80 gallons = \$2736.00
  - Booster @ \$123.00 for a 1 gallon container
- PCE changed annually over 3 years \$14,553.00
- Metalnox shelf life 3 years in machine \$4851.00
- Savings over 3 years
  - Chemical costs \$10,000
  - Booster savings \$7107.00
  - Total of \$17,107.00

# **Cost savings**



- There will also be a cost savings on energy as the new machine is much more energy efficient than the old.
- Hopefully UEM will be able to share more info on that after I get certified as an RC TURP planner next year!!!!

## **Obstacles**



- Eight year wait for approval
- Still getting employees trained on use and maintenance of new equipment