

Hotwire Direct Foam Cutting Machines

Hotwire Direct is owned by Tony Rousseau, who also heads the Research and Development Department, his son Ben is the Support and Marketing Manager, and Gary Simler is the General Manager. They are located at 1712 13th St. Clarkston, Washington.

Hotwire Direct a manufacturer of foam cutting machines has been in business for 12 years, they employ 18 workers. Ben Rousseau says there is a growing need for qualified people to help them expand their company. Hotwire is in need of a machinist and has trouble filling positions due to the lack of training by applicants. Ben indicated that employees who do not have training need to have good math and communications skills (both verbal and written) and a mechanical aptitude.

Hotwire has a national and international market, although their market is somewhat tied to the housing industry they are maintaining steady and slightly increasing growth on both local and export sales.

The Hotwire machines are remarkable. They use Solid Works for Research & Development, Rhino 3d and BobWire are used for programming the machines. Each machine comes with computer, software, bar code scanner system, 3 day installation and training. Once the computer is programmed for the design the bar code systems allows even the inexperienced to use the machine, a digital display takes the operator through the steps.

Hotwire is working on a new coating machine that covers the foam molding with a stucco like product for both interior and exterior applications.

Ben said that their standard wire machines cut with up to 6 wires at a time and are capable of cuts within 0.002" tolerance. The Research and Development Department has just finished their first 50 wire machine. With this machine they are able to cut 14,400 feet of 1"x6' trim board in 4 1/2 minutes.

This manufacturing process can be summed up in one word "WOW" they just do an absolutely superior job on these machines.

Please view their web site at www.hotwiredirect.com