

# Clemco Opens Enhanced Sample Processing - R&D Lab

**CLEMCO INDUSTRIES** opened its enhanced Sample Processing - R&D Lab in early 2020. The new facility is 4,500 square feet—more than double the size of the old facility. It has 13 machines while the old lab had six. In addition, four industrial dust collectors have been installed outside of the building. The expanded facility is a reflection of how much Clemco's business has grown and how committed Clemco is to the new lab's twofold mission:

1. State-of-the-art sample processing
2. Ground-breaking research and development for the abrasive blasting industry

## Expanded Sample Processing Capabilities

The new lab's sample-processing capabilities allow it to more accurately simulate a wide range of industrial blasting applications. After a customer sends samples of parts to be blasted along with details about the desired end results and their current process, the lab replicates the conditions of the customer's facility and researches solutions. The lab then uses the data it has collected to recommend the best equipment, media, and process required to solve the customer's blasting needs. Recommendations could range from modifications to the customer's current facility or process, purchase of standard or modified Clemco equipment, or a consultation with Clemco Engineering about custom-designing equipment for the customer. This service is free of charge to Clemco customers.

## Industry-Leading Research and Development

We live in an information age, and Clemco is committed to being the recognized source of information for the abrasive blasting industry. To this end, the new lab:

- Explores methods for enhancing dust collector, reclaimers, and blast system efficiency.



*Lucas Cahill, Clemco's Sample Processing Manager, in the company's enhanced Sample Processing - R&D Lab.*

- Researches how to develop better equipment components and safety equipment.
- Develops more productive blast machines, cabinets, and rooms.
- Performs ongoing research and shares new findings on how best to use media, equipment, and new procedures.

## From Demolishing Cars to Overseeing the Lab

Clemco's Sample Processing Manager, Lucas Cahill, never would have guessed that he would guide the opening of Clemco's new lab. When he was 14 years old, Lucas had his first welding job, helping to fabricate roll cages for his father's and uncle's demolition derby hot rods. Lucas eventually went on to compete as a derby driver while making a living as a welder. In 2005, after Lucas had seven years of welding experience under his belt, Clemco hired him. He continued to work as a journeyman welder until 2013, when Clemco promoted Lucas to Sample Processing Technician. Lucas worked under the wings of Herb Tobben until 2015 when Herb retired after more than 40 years as the lab's manager. Lucas stepped into Herb's shoes.

"If you would have told me 25 years ago when I was welding derby cars for my family that one day I would oversee the opening of Clemco's new Sample Processing - R&D Lab," Lucas jokes, "I probably would have told you that you were as crazy as my family. Funny thing is that I stopped driving in the derbies in 2008 to focus on family and career and I have no regrets."

## Request Sample Processing

Contact Clemco Customer Service through email at [custserv@clemcoindustries.com](mailto:custserv@clemcoindustries.com) or by phone at 636-239-4300. ●



*Lucas Cahill (right) and his younger brother Clinton sit in front of what was a 1981 Ford LTD Station Wagon. Clinton drove and Lucas rode shotgun.*