ORION Achieves AS9100 Certification

Larry Bonney – Engineering Manager, Mike Widmayer – President Stu Husmer – VP Operations

We are pleased to announce the company has achieved AS9100 certification, recognizing ORION as a compliant, reliable and preferred vendor for the Aerospace Industry.

AS9100 is the internationally recognized Quality Management System standard specific to the aerospace, aviation and defense industries. Pursuing AS9100 certification was a logical next step for improving ORION’s quality management system while growing its business. The process began in 2015 when the company decided to expand its market presence in the aerospace industry. The team made the commitment to compliance and stepped up to the challenge of upgrading the quality management system, resulting in the successful achievement of the certification. The addition of AS9100 complements ORION’s ISO 9001:2008 certification and highlights the company’s focus on supporting the stringent requirements of the aerospace and related industries.

ORION is proud of this achievement and is fully dedicated to continually improving systems, maintaining compliance, following protocols and achieving the high amount of customer satisfaction necessary to retain this certification.

FIRST® LEGO® League 2016

The LEGO® Robotics program at Ste Jeanne d’Arc School has completed its third year of competition and the program continues to grow in popularity. This year the school added a third team, the Robo Overloads, joining the Chargers and Igniters. There were 30 students participating in the LEGO® program, 10 students per team.

Get ready. Get set. ROAR! The teams worked hard on this year’s challenge, ANIMAL ALLIESSM. They learned about the many different ways that animals can help humans and humans can help animals. While the programmers worked on figuring out the best solutions for the robot game, the project groups tried to find new, innovative ways to better our interactions with animals in the real world.

New this year was a webcast called “Ask the Experts”, which was sponsored by Tufts University School of Veterinary Science. This webcast gave students a chance to interact with experts in the field and ask questions that would assist them in meeting the challenges they would face in the competition.

This year’s competition was held on December 3rd and we are happy to announce that two teams brought home trophies. The Robo Overloads were recognized for their Teamwork and the Igniters were awarded for Innovative Solutions. Please join ORION in congratulating all three teams on their commitment to teamwork and problem solving this year!
We are very pleased to announce ORION has recently been selected by the Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control division for a small business award.

These awards are given to recognize the valuable role ORION and other small businesses play in strengthening Lockheed Martin’s global supply chain. Additionally, it recognizes the outstanding performance achieved by ORION in both On-Time delivery and Quality delivered requirements.

Tony Willson, our Senior Sales Representative, was asked to accept the award on ORION’s behalf in Orlando, FL in April and join in celebration with other small businesses recognized at this event.

In 2012 we began telling you about the J-3 Piper Cub airplane project where one of our customers asked for ORION’s help in “getting off the ground”. What started out as a vision is slowly but surely becoming a reality.

The plane’s wing, which contains fabricated rib supports cut on our MultiCam 3000 Router/Knife cutter, is now in place on top of the fuselage. The fuselage was assembled by laying out the center lines and side tubing and welding the entire assembly together. Once all welding is completed and inspected for completeness, coverage, and pinholes then the entire fuselage will be sandblasted and primed. According to our customer, it’s been a long journey to this point and there is still a long way to go.

A brief history. The Piper J-3 Cub was built between 1937 and 1947 by Piper Aircraft. Due to its lightweight design, the aircraft has good low speed handling properties and short field performance allowing it to be a great asset during World War II. Known as the L-4 Grasshopper during the war it was well suited for a variety of military uses such as reconnaissance, transporting supplies, artillery spotting duties, and medical evacuation of wounded soldiers. The Cub is one of the best known light aircraft of all time.

This year’s ornament was designed to highlight our AS9100 achievement. Our military style airplane was cut out of red, white, and blue 0.25” Plastazote® polyethylene foam using our Waterjet Machining Center.

Final planes were assembled using all three different colors to give each plane a patriotic look.

Simply place on the branches of your tree or elsewhere in your home or office and enjoy!