

**Bill Meehan  
Bill's Machine Shop  
BMS Manufacturing**

It all started in 1976 in a small shed on the farm. In 1977, the original business operated out of the Schuyler County Grange Hall comprised of a three-man company making custom wood stoves, carrying the Meehan mark, and repairing farm machinery equipment. Those humble beginnings have morphed and grown into a long standing thriving successful Schuyler County business for 48 years.

Bill, a WGCS graduate is also a graduate of the BOCES program in machine technology. He was a TEC Center Machine Trades student from 1974-1976. He was active in VICA, won the State Machine Shop Contest and went to the national finals. He was awarded the 1976 Ronald Ward commencement prize for his accomplishments in BOCES.

1985: A new building was erected.

1987: The Sunday Star Gazette edition on 1/31/88 and Frank Steber both wrote that the WGBA (Watkins Glen Business Association) recognized BMS as one of Schuyler County's main manufacturing employees. The building was doubled in size again adding a fabrication shop and had over fifty employees with computer-controlled lathes, presses, metal shears and benders, grinders, and mills. It was a primary work job shop service which included: the manufacture of industrial machine parts and structural metal fabrication, ie: conveyers, heat exchangers, and dust controls.

1988: The Corning Leader Business section advertised that BMS was looking for qualified workers to fill expanding shifts. They had a large backlog.

1995: On Wednesday, November 15, Bill was inducted into the BOCES TEC Center Hall of Fame. He was one of just five honorees for this inaugural class of special students. The program description read: "Meehan has owned his own business, BMS Manufacturing, Inc., since 1976. He erected a new modern shop in 1985, and doubled the size of this shop two years later. In 1993, Meehan purchased Ontario Tool Supply. Today BMS Manufacturing, Inc., employes over 50 people and consists of 24,000 square feet equipped with the most modern and up to date machine and fabricating equipment in the area."

1999: United Way of Schuyler County recognized BMS Manufacturing with its Marie Bailey Outstanding Volunteer Award. Bill and Beth Meehan received a letter from then Senator Randy Kuhl congratulating them and their employees for doubling their contributions. Prior to that Beth Meehan was recognized in 1994 for being a business captain in their annual campaign.

**2001: The Syracuse District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration and Central New York lenders, along with economic development organizations have teamed-up to celebrate National Small Business Week and the importance of small business to our economy at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Small Business Excellence Awards luncheon. Bill was chosen by G.E. Capital to receive this prestigious award.**

### ***BMS Manufacturing Inc.***

#### **GE Capital**

BMS Manufacturing is a one-stop shop for both machining and fabrications. The company is located in Watkins Glen.

The diverse capabilities of BMS have enabled the company to align itself with quality customers, such as Goulds Pumps, Raymond Corporation, Hoffman Air Systems and over 200 others.

BMS has carved out a niche in the industry where they focus on larger parts that most machine shops their size are not equipped to handle.

Over the past 24 years BMS has consistently updated its technology and capabilities to meet a very diverse base of client needs.

In a capital-intensive business, the know how of BMS enables the company to purchase heavy machinery and rebuild and retool it in-house. BMS is in the midst of its forth expansion, each doubling their capacity.

GE Capital salutes Bill Meehan on his management style and for growing his company into one of the most modern machining and fabrication shops in Upstate New York.

**2001: Star-Gazette, G. Jeffrey Aaron article with follow up information regarding the previously noted Small Business Award of Excellence. Quoting from that article he stated: “But Meehan seems embarrassed by the attention. His business credo is simple: Don’t look at me, look at what I do. Joseph Ariola (vice-president of business development for G.E. Capital) said, “They have a huge diverse customer base, from the large industrial customers to little machine shops that seek him out. Bill stayed away from those that wanted to be 80 percent of his business. They’ve managed to carve out a little niche for themselves and can handle the larger pieces that other companies can’t do. Despite the attention being heaped on BMS, Meehan prefers life away from the limelight. Meehan’s low-key demeanor and dress make it hard to tell him from his employees. “I’ve never been a look-at-me person. We just do our thing and it’s never flashy.”**

**For the next 25 years the plant grew to 52,000 square feet and continued to build on their customer base.**

**Bill is business savvy, a great role model for small businesses, a huge role model in exemplifying community support for Schuyler County, and an extremely humble man. He deserves to be recognized as a Distinguished Alumni from WGCS for 2025 and we are proud to add him to our wall of fame.**