





A CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS


JASPER / GROUP

1929 A CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS 2009

This book is a tribute to the people of Jasper Group, both past and present. To the founders who charted our course 80 years ago, we are forever indebted for their vision and courage. To all of those who have come afterward, we offer our thanks for your skills, talents, and, often times, sheer perseverance in raising the bar of excellence that has steered us to our present course of success.

Today is a time of celebration. It is a time to acknowledge where we have been, a time to recognize the challenges and to gain strength from our past ingenuity, and a time to reflect with pride on what we have been able to accomplish. Finally, it is a time to focus on a future that is firmly rooted in the knowledge that it is our resiliency and ability to adapt that will carry us into the next 80 years.

For the past two decades, it has been my privilege to witness what is possible when people pair their dedication for achieving unparalleled quality with an unquenchable desire to push beyond the boundaries of what is acceptable to what is exceptional. Therefore, it is with great pride and pleasure that I offer this look back at our legacy of success to serve as inspiration as we go forward.



Michael J. Elliott,
Chairman of the Board, CEO and President
Jasper Group



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



(Pictured Center)

Michael J. Elliott *Chairman of the Board, CEO and President*

(Pictured Left to Right)

Glenn H. Gramelspacher II *Secretary*

William A. Rubino *Treasurer*

Brian R. Lish *Assistant Treasurer*

Glenn H. Gramelspacher *Director Emeritus*

Nicholas A. Gramelspacher *Assistant Secretary*

Ronald L. Beck *Assistant Auditor*

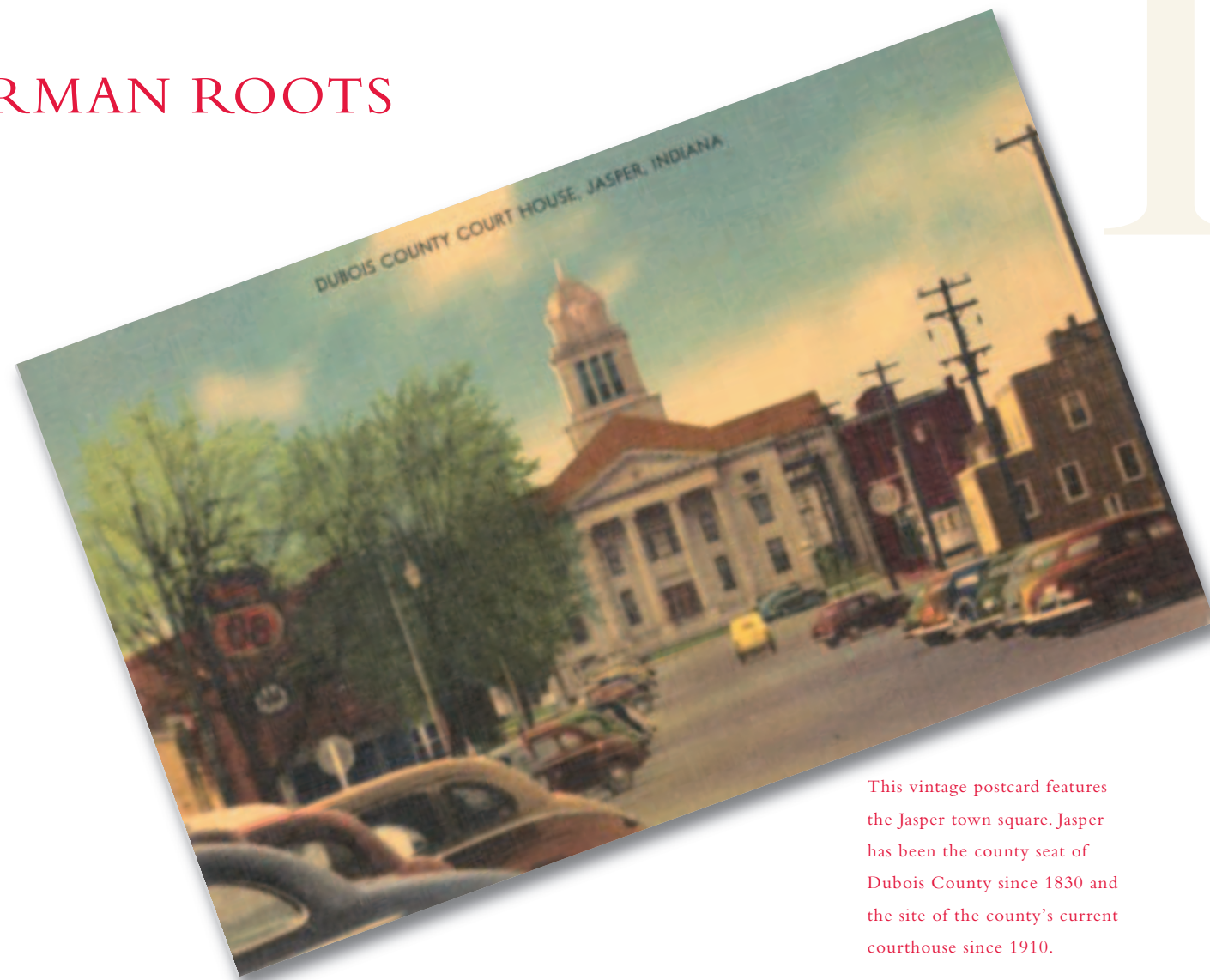
J.P. Salb, M.D. *Auditor*



In the early 1800's, German immigrants, skilled in the art of woodworking, settled in Jasper, Indiana amid the tremendous wealth of native white oak, walnut, and other hardwoods that covered the surrounding hills. As the German population increased, settlers began clearing land and processing lumber to make way for agricultural fields that would provide food for their families.

It wasn't until the early stages of the industrial revolution and the pressing through of the railroad in 1879 from eastern markets to the West that settlers began to see the potential of their natural wood resources and their own inherent skills at woodworking and cabinetmaking to produce office furniture. By the end of the 1920's, there were eleven office furniture manufacturers in operation, and the community's roots were firmly planted to set the stage for Jasper to become known as the "Nation's Wood Furniture Capital."

GERMAN ROOTS



This vintage postcard features the Jasper town square. Jasper has been the county seat of Dubois County since 1830 and the site of the county's current courthouse since 1910.

One cannot look at the progress of Jasper over the past 179 years without recognizing the parallel development of its woodworking industry. In those early years, logging industries led to a plentiful natural resource for manufacturing wood products for local consumption. Because of Jasper's location on the Patoka River in the southwestern part of the state of Indiana, the water made it easy for loggers to cut nearby trees and transport them downriver to the town's spawning saw, planing, and veneer mills.

As timber near the water was depleted, loggers moved further inland dragging lumber through the woods by horses and oxen, and, in later years, hauled by wagon trucks. By the 1890's, the town's population had grown, and its people began to look forward into new, wood-related industries to support their families. It was then that a budding new commerce in furniture manufacturing began to emerge.

Industries allied to wood manufacturing also began to grow. Joseph L. Eckstein & Sons established a sawmill in 1899 that became one of the largest sawmill band-sawn hardwood operations in the area.



These early loggers took a break from the labor-intensive job of sawing and transporting logs into the river to the local mills.



The circumference of the mature trees logged from Southern Indiana's forests were so large it took several men linked arm to arm to surround their girth.



We salute these early pioneers who had the foresight to utilize the natural resources of the hardwood forests, growing the wood office furniture industry for the generations who would follow.



1929 THE FOUNDING BOARD

During that first organizational meeting on February 4, 1929, seven prominent local businessmen gathered together in the offices of Jasper Desk Company to elect the first board of directors and officers of Jasper Seating Company, now known as Jasper Group.

MEMBERS

Louis P. Joseph, President
George R. Wilson, Vice-President
Leo C. Jahn, Secretary
Louis T. Koerner, Treasurer
Dr. Leo A. Salb, Director
Alva Elliott, Director
John L. Eckert, Director

Leadership

PRESIDENTS



LOUIS P. JOSEPH
1929-1941

Mr. Joseph gave generously to every worthy cause that prospered his native city or added to its citizens' happiness. As president of two other local manufacturing plants, he used his extensive business knowledge to organize and steer the company through some of its most turbulent economic times.



DR. LEO A. SALB
1942-1971

As a graduate of the Indiana University School of Medicine, Dr. Salb soon returned to his hometown of Jasper to begin his practice. Salb served as a captain in the Army Medical Corp during WWII, and then continued serving his community through several civic groups and local industry, bringing his leadership skills to Jasper Seating for nearly 30 years.



JOHN L. ECKERT
1972-1973

Mr. Eckert was the last surviving member of the founding board to hold the office of president for the company. As one of Jasper's pioneers in the automobile dealership industry, he successfully transferred his talents for business operations to leading Jasper Seating into its fifth decade of success.



CASPER A. ELLIOTT
1973-1981

As son of founding board member, Alva Elliott, Mr. Elliott learned the business from the ground up by working in the lumberyard and sawmill, working his way to becoming a member of the board. Mr. Elliott dedicated his entire career to the betterment and advancement of the company.



CHESTER L. MUTCHMAN
1981-1986

Mr. Mutchman, a Korean War Navy veteran and named one of the State's Outstanding Young Men in Indiana, was always furthering the town's industrial progress with the organization of new enterprises. Wise to the needs of the company and astute in his business judgment, he drew the respect of all those who knew him.



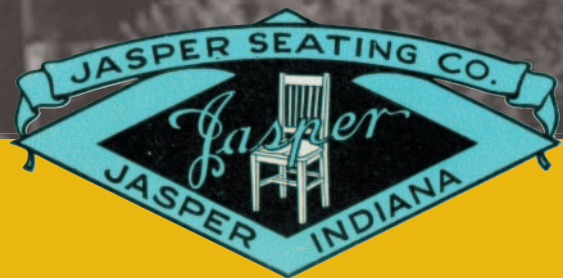
MICHAEL J. ELLIOTT
1986-PRESENT

As a third generation descendant of founding board director, Alva Elliott, Mr. Elliott has continued the family legacy by managing lumberyards and owning his own business in woodworking machinery. His deep roots may very well be why the company has enjoyed unprecedented growth under his leadership.

Over the past eight decades, Jasper Group has enjoyed a long line of quality leadership paving a foundation of growth and prosperity. The company's founding leaders were pioneers in a new industry of wood office furniture manufacturing. These risk takers seized an opportunity to capitalize on the existing resources in Jasper, like Indiana's abundant premium hardwood forests, local lumberyards and veneer mills, and the woodworking skills of their German ancestors to forge their way into a new market.

Today, there is a new generation of leadership at Jasper Group, but the end goal of the Board of Directors and the officers remains the same: "to use the resources we have—great people, good product, good service—to the best advantage in a changing marketplace. If you do that, and do it better than the competition, you can't help but grow," said President Michael Elliott.

While many people might view the task of leading an 85 million dollar company into the future as complex, Elliott said it's really quite simple. "We produce high quality product at a good price point. There are really only a small handful of companies that can compete with us in this part of the market. Holding onto that legacy is the biggest part of my job."



LOGO
CATALOG 1

1929

This would be the wood seating industry's first impression of the Jasper Seating Company. The company's pride in its origins was perhaps never more prominent as the word Jasper appears three times in this first logo.



LOGO
CATALOG 14

1937

As the company began to pull out of the Great Depression, a fresh new look was called into order. Its medallion-like shape resembled a seal of approval as the company paid its first dividend to stockholders on December 27, 1937.



JASPER SEATING
COMPANY
INCORPORATED

LOGO
1950'S LITERATURE

1953

In an effort to combat the resurgence of the steel furniture industry, this logo was used to remind consumers of the beauty and the environmental friendliness of wood, a renewable and recyclable natural resource.



LOGO
1970'S LITERATURE

1978

After more than forty years of carefully crafting a name for quality wood seating and superior customer service, the company heralded in a more modern logo that would be easily recognized and that would brand its name into the minds of its customers.



LOGO
1980'S LITERATURE

1986

With the end of the 1970's recession, the battle for new market share meant new strategies in promotion. This stylized Jasper Seating logo reflected the company's new direction in distinguishing itself from its competitors.



LOGO
PARENT COMPANY NAME

2008

A new corporate name marked a shift in market perception. Under its new name the company would include Jasper Group's four brands: JSI, Community, Klem, and Jasper Library Furniture. The hand in the logo represents the company's long history of handcrafting furniture since 1929.

The Wall Street stock market crash sends the world's economy into a free fall. Wings wins Best Picture at the first Academy Awards. Leo Diegel wins the PGA Golf Tournament for the second year in a row. Jasper Seating Company is the name of a new chair manufacturer in Jasper, Indiana.

During that first organizational meeting on February 4th, the purposes of the new company were set forth to manufacture school chairs, office chairs, and office furniture. The authorized capital stock was set at \$150,000 or 1,500 shares. On February 15th, the new board accomplished three major tasks: William Gosman was named the company's first General Manager, a site for the factory building between Ninth and Twelfth Streets and between Mill and Vine Streets was purchased, and bids for the construction and equipment of the building were reviewed.

1929

THE BEGINNING

By August, the 106,000 square foot U-shaped factory building was nearly completed. A battery of seven National dry kilns and lumber tracks with one-half million feet of lumber capacity furnished the dried lumber for the plant. The building was so arranged that the lumber came in from the dry kiln at one end and moved steadily forward in the process of manufacture. The 50' x 80' boiler house was equipped with a 200 horsepower boiler to supply steam for heating, dry kilns, bending machines, and steam retorts.

The Board of Directors met in their new offices for the first time on August 12, 1929. By September 1st, production was underway to run a general line of office chairs to be built. When running at capacity, the plant would employ about 125 men. Everything was going according to plan, but the world's economy was about to come to a grinding halt, a situation that no one could have predicted.

The Jasper Herald newspaper reported the announcement of the organization of a new chair company in town. The organizers included many of Jasper's well-known and respected leaders within the community.

JASPER SEATING CO. ORGANIZED

Name Board of Directors For New Industry Here

Jasper Seating Company is the name of the new Chair Company organized in this city, last Monday night, Feb. 4, under the laws of the State of Indiana. The capital stock is \$150,000.00. The officers and directors are: Louis P. Joseph, President; George R. Wilson, Vice-President; Leo C. Jahn, Secretary; Louis T. Koerner, Treasurer; Director Dr. Leo A. Salb, Alva Elliott and John S. Eckert. The new company is composed of many of the officers, directors, and large stockholders of the well known and successful Jasper Chair Company. Work will begin on the new building which will be erected on Vine Street, as soon as weather conditions are favorable. The articles of incorporation have been filed with the Secretary of State, at Indianapolis, and the stock books will be open in due time. However, the stock has been practically spoken for at this time. Mr. Joseph and Mr. Koerner will be in charge of the sale of stock.

- FOUNDING OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
- Louis P. Joseph, President

George R. Wilson, Vice-President

Leo C. Jahn, Secretary

Louis T. Koerner, Treasurer

Dr. Leo A. Salb, Director

Alva Elliott, Director

John S. Eckert, Director



Jasper Seating Company launched its first line of chairs named the 400 Line. The four chairs were made of selected quartered oak and were designed to "meet the demand for an economical, substantially built chair."

JASPER SEATING CO. JASPER INDIANA

Four Hundred Line

This "The Four Hundred Line", is designed to meet the demand for an economical substantially built chair. They are designed for both service and comfort. You are assured of sturdy construction and lifetime service in the selection of these chairs.

The four numbers illustrated in opposite page are made of selected Quartered White Oak, finished in Light Oak. Also finished in Dark Oak, Fumed Oak and Brown; dull rubbed Lacquer Finish.

Will finish to any specification.

400 LINE

No. 401 Quartered Oak. Material: Selected Quartered Oak. Width of Seat, 17 1/2". Depth of Seat, 17 1/2". Height of Back from Seat, 19". Seat Back from floor, 18" and 19" each. Arms each end of 19" each. Back, Top and Middle Slats, 1 inch each. Front Seat from, 18" and 19" each. No extra charge for Casters. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz.

No. 402 Quartered Oak. Material: Selected Quartered Oak. Width of Seat, 17 1/2". Depth of Seat, 17 1/2". Height of Back from Seat, 19". Seat Back from floor, 18" and 19" each. Arms each end of 19" each. Back, Top and Middle Slats, 1 inch each. Front Seat from, 18" and 19" each. No extra charge for Casters. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz.

No. 403 Quartered Oak. Material: Selected Quartered Oak. Width of Seat, 17 1/2". Depth of Seat, 17 1/2". Height of Back from Seat, 19". Seat Back from floor, 18" and 19" each. Back, Top and Middle Slats, 1 inch each. Front Seat from, 18" and 19" each. No extra charge for Casters. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz.

No. 404 Quartered Oak. Material: Selected Quartered Oak. Width of Seat, 17 1/2". Depth of Seat, 17 1/2". Height of Back from Seat, 19". Seat Back from floor, 18" and 19" each. Back, Top and Middle Slats, 1 inch each. Front Seat from, 18" and 19" each. No extra charge for Casters. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz. Shipping Weight: 22 lbs. 10 oz.

FEBRUARY 4, 1929
JASPER SEATING COMPANY AND BOARD WERE FOUNDED

FEBRUARY 15, 1929
FIRST GENERAL MANAGER, WILLIAM GOSMAN WAS EMPLOYED

MARCH 22, 1929
GRADING OF NEW PLANT SITE WAS UNDERWAY

MAY 3, 1929
NEW PLANT RAPIDLY TOOK SHAPE; STEEL FRAMEWORK WAS COMPLETED AND BRICK WALLS WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SEPTEMBER 1, 1929
PRODUCTION OF CHAIRS WAS UNDERWAY

OCTOBER 24, 1929
NEW YORK STOCK MARKET CRASHED

DECEMBER 31, 1929
JASPER SEATING COMPANY SALES REACHED \$44,000

12

13

In October, the catastrophic collapse of the New York stock market catapulted the United States into the Great Depression, and business at the budding new company began to decline very rapidly. It was at this point that the directors of the company began to show their ingenuity in providing the capital to keep the organization from going under.

The leaders approached local and out-of-town bankers for financial aid and attempted to secure a loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The RFC turned them down because they did not make loans to industrial plants. Determined to keep the plant afloat, the leaders, with the approval of the stockholders, increased the capital stock of the company and invested their own funds to keep things going.

The following January, the directors gave the Hale Desk Company the right to sell and distribute their products in the states of New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Within months, Jasper Seating President Louis P. Joseph had purchased the exclusive rights to manufacture the Posture Chair, invented by Earl Thompson of New York. Little by little the company was able to repay the money it borrowed, and by 1937 it had regained enough of a financial footing to pay its stockholders their first stock dividend.

The 400 chairs, later renamed the Americana Series, are still in production today and remain a signature card of the company's quality.



Ahead of its time, the patented ergonomic Posture Chair was designed to “fit the human form.” The company was selected to manufacture the chair for its ability to “build a better product more economically and in greater volume.”

SEATING CO. TO
MANUFACTURE
POSTURE CHAIR

Local Plant Secures
Exclusive Mfg.
Rights

INSTALL EQUIPMENT

Earl Thompson of New York, inventor of the Posture Chair, the patent of which is owned by Earl Thompson Posture Seating, Inc., of New York has been in this city for several weeks supervising the installation of equipment and tools for the manufacture of his chair.

The Jasper Seating Co. has purchased the exclusive rights to manufacture this chair and is equipping for volume production to supply the demand from all parts of the United States.

The chair was formerly built at Gardner, Mass., but for reasons of economy in manufacture and distribution it was found advisable by the Thompson Co. to establish a manufacturing connection further west; the local plant was chosen because it is able to give greater volume of production.

Louis P. Joseph, President of the Jasper Seating Co., concluded the transaction for exclusive manufacturing rights several months ago and the corporation owning the patent selected the local plant for its ability to manufacture a better product more economically as well as in greater volume.

The chair is sold through educational channels rather than commercial, using the physical culture advantages as its principal feature.

The purpose of the posture chair is to safeguard growing children from spinal troubles, to delay fatigue and prevent exhaustion of sedentary workers. It is designed to fit the human form and keep the spine and internal organs in normal position. It is shaped to support the thighs and not interfere with the bending of the knees. It can be adapted to any form of seating.

The chair is made in a variety of sizes, the proportions of which are accurately determined that every normal growing child or sedentary worker may be properly and comfortably seated. The posture features are patented and cannot be successfully imitated.

Manager Wm. Gosman expects to have the plant in production by next week. About forty men are now at work in the machine room and the force will be increased from time to time during the next few weeks. Several orders have already been booked and the management expects a capacity production in this line.

Every piece of furniture will bear a label with the patent numbers, the individual chair number and the wording: Earl Thompson Posture Furniture, manufactured by the Jasper Seating Co., Jasper, Indiana.

This cover chair featured a contoured back, utilizing a steam-bending process that continues to be used today. Jasper Group is one of a very few companies that can still offer this unique wood-bending technique.

JASPER SEATING CO.
JASPER, INDIANA

JASPER SEATING CO.
JASPER, INDIANA

1930

JANUARY 1930
BOARD GAVE
HALE DESK COMPANY
OF NEW YORK CITY
RIGHTS TO SELL
AND DISTRIBUTE
PRODUCTS IN
NEW YORK, NEW
JERSEY, RHODE
ISLAND, AND
CONNECTICUT

JULY 25, 1930
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY GIVEN
EXCLUSIVE
RIGHTS TO
MANUFACTURE
PATENTED POSTURE
CHAIR FOR
EARL THOMPSON
OF NEW YORK,
INVENTOR OF THE
CHAIR

1930
AVERAGE COST
OF A NEW HOME
WAS \$7,145

1933

JANUARY 1933
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY HAD
FIRST SHOWING
OF UPHOLSTERED
OCCASIONAL CHAIRS
AT THE AMERICAN
FURNITURE MART
IN CHICAGO

1937

DECEMBER 22, 1937
FIRST STOCK
DIVIDEND PAID
TO JASPER SEATING
COMPANY
STOCKHOLDERS

Kneeling Left to Right:

Leo Brelage
John Allen
Riley Dunn
Homer Traylor
Harry Luegers
Skippy Wolfe

Albert Neuhopf
Ralph Burger
Joe Heichelbech
Ambrose Brelage
Robert Berg
Tom King
Walter Schnarr

William Harder, Sr.
Hans Uebelhor
Murph Jahn
Sam Fisher
Mike Fritz
Fidelis Burger
George Fuhrman

Arthur Kane
Louis Strange

Standing Left to Right:

William Gosman
John Eckert
Florence Vogler
Eddie Hochgesang
Syl Burger
Leo Kapp

Louis Bohro
Chris Singer
Albert Hochgesang
Fred Burger
Robert Schwinghammer
William Tucker
George Fehribach

Robert Jahn
Urban Seger
Henry Otto
Arthur Patton
Carl Weigel
Jake Berg
Franklin Mundy

William Jasper
Mark Harker
Casper Elliott
Herb Hedinger
Louis Patton
Andrew Dick
Edward Marks

Robert Scherle
Russell McCoy
Edward Bredhold
Mark Judy
Othmar Rohleder
John Ackerman
Aloysius Mundy

Jake Schnarr
August Furhman
Silas Burger
Alphonse Beck
John Burke



1935

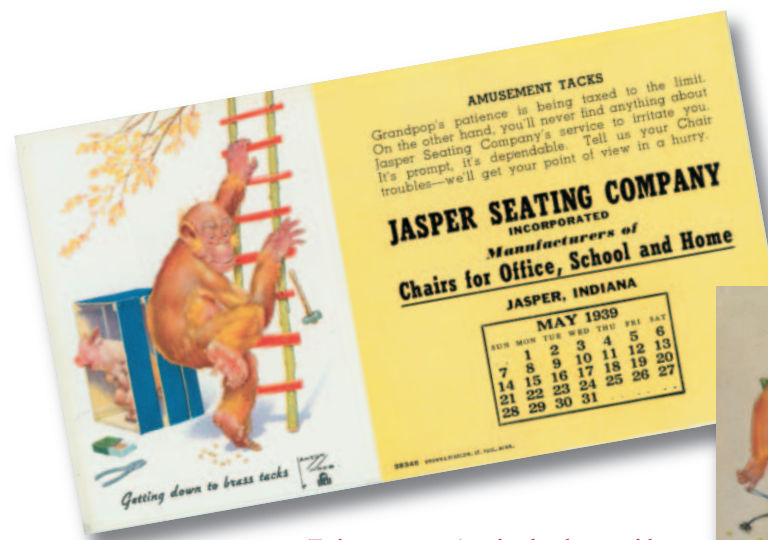
JASPER SEATING COMPANY
EMPLOYEE PHOTO

On May 25, 1935, the company was still in its infancy, and these 61 employees were fighting a bitter, uphill battle during the Great Depression. While new construction halted and bigger, more established businesses were failing around the country, Jasper Seating Company, as it was then known, helped stabilize the economic conditions within the community. To these few, we salute you for having planted the cornerstones from which the company would draw its strength and stamina for the many years to come.

Nazi Germany invades Poland beginning World War II. The Hewlett Packard Company is founded. John Steinbeck's novel The Grapes of Wrath is published. The Wizard of Oz film premieres starring Judy Garland. Jasper Seating experiences a decade of explosive growth in sales and production.

Because of the military's need for all metal during WWII, the growth of the metal office furniture industry had ceased, but Indiana's natural wood resources and Jasper Seating's expertise in chair manufacturing would help fill the void for business furniture. By 1940, under the leadership of General Manager August "Gus" Kreig, production needs had raised the employee count to 147, and gross sales were at \$536,000. As the war came to an end, the company continued to move ahead, gaining exposure as it exhibited products at high profile conventions. By the end of 1948, Jasper Seating celebrated a major milestone after it reached one million dollars in gross sales.

WAR BEGINS



Today, a promotional calendar would appear as a desktop screen saver, but in 1939, these colorful desk calendars are a sentimental look back at how office technology has changed over the decades.



Jasper Seating executives bid for some of the \$30 million worth of business expected to be given out at the Furniture Mart held in Chicago's Merchandise Mart. The Mart, built in 1930, continues to be the location for today's highly popular NeoCon furniture trade show.



From the very beginning, Jasper Seating made it a priority to manufacture high quality chairs. In this brochure, the company took pride in advertising its use of these highly merited rubber cushioned chair irons in all of its swivel chairs.

1939

SEPTEMBER 11, 1939
WORLD WAR II BEGAN
AFTER GERMANY
INVADED POLAND

1941

DECEMBER 6, 1941
JAPAN ATTACKED
PEARL HARBOR AND
DREW THE U.S. INTO
WORLD WAR II

1943

JANUARY 15, 1943
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY EMPLOYEES
VOTED 64 TO 54 IN
FAVOR OF LOCAL 331
UNITED FURNITURE
WORKERS AS THEIR
BARGAINING AGENCY
FOR HOURS, WAGES,
AND WORKING
CONDITIONS

AUGUST 1943
SOUTHWEST SALES
REP SENT JASPER
SEATING COMPANY
A 75 POUND
WATERMELON
INSCRIBED IN THE
RIND WITH THE
WORDS "DEEP IN
THE HEART OF TEXAS"
CLAIMING EVERYTHING
IS BIG IN TEXAS

1944

JUNE 6, 1944
KNOWN AS D-DAY,
WESTERN ALLIES
INVADED FRANCE
WHICH LED TO THE
DEFEAT OF GERMAN
FORCES

1945

AUGUST 14, 1945
KNOWN AS VJ-DAY,
JAPAN SURRENDERED
WHICH ENDED WORLD
WAR II

1946

SEPTEMBER 1946
GENERAL MANAGER
GUS KREIG, WHO
PRIDED HIMSELF ON
HIS ABILITY TO
GUESS A PERSON'S
AGE, GUESSED THE
AGE OF ALL 23 MEN
ATTENDING A
CHICAGO MEETING

AUGUST 24, 1948
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY EMPLOYEES
SIGNED NEW UNION
CONTRACT THAT
GRANTED A NINE
CENTS PER HOUR
WAGE INCREASE

1948

DECEMBER 1948
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY GROSS
SALES REACHED
\$1,072,512

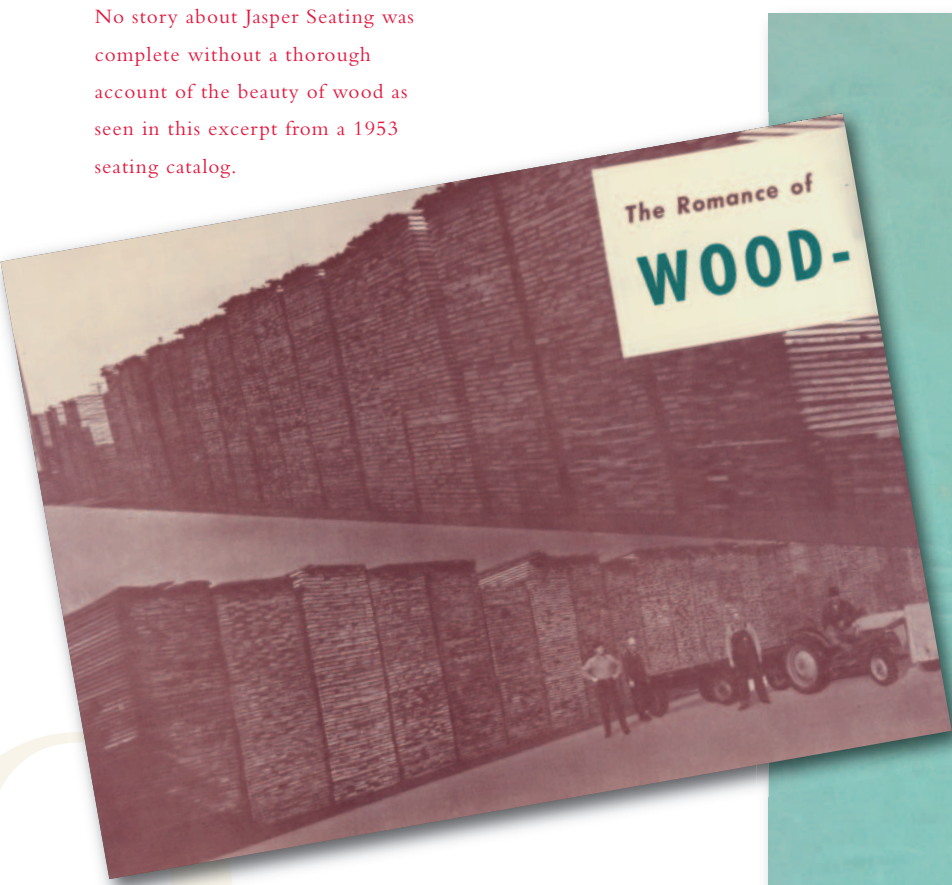
Harry S. Truman begins his first full term as President. The average income per year is \$2,950. Rodgers and Hammerstein’s South Pacific opens on Broadway. Jasper Seating fights back the competition from the re-emerging steel industry.

While the economic recovery following the war varied in different parts of the world, industrial output in the United States was going well. However, the reentry of the steel industry into the desk and chair business had wood manufacturers teaming together to develop new advertising campaigns and strategies through the Wood Office Furniture Institute (WOFI) headquartered in Washington D.C. Jasper Seating executives were quick to become key players in this national association by becoming board members. In 1949, Gus Kreig was elected to the Institute’s executive committee. As a result of the three-day WOFI meeting, the Institute pressed for increased production of wood products and created ideas to increase consumer awareness about the benefits of wood furniture in an effort to deflect the growing threat from the steel industry.

FACING COMPETITION



To take market share away from their steel competitors, an important goal of the company’s seating catalogs was to extol the benefits of wood office furniture.



No story about Jasper Seating was complete without a thorough account of the beauty of wood as seen in this excerpt from a 1953 seating catalog.

CASTERS—All revolving chairs are equipped with casters free of charge. These are the grip-neck type, composition wheel 1½" diameter. Numbers 980 - 982 - 400 - 402 are equipped with 1½" ball-bearing casters.

Ball-bearing casters can be supplied at the following net prices: No. 7699—Riveted axle, ball-bearing, wheel 1½" diameter @ 1.25 per set of 4. No. 9696—Riveted axle, ball-bearing, wheel 2" diameter net 1.50 per set of 4.

GLIDES—All arm and side chairs are equipped with polished metal glides. Rubber cushion glides can be furnished at an additional charge. 25¢ net per set of four.

TELEGRAPHIC CODE

SABER	Advise by letter when you can ship
SABLE	Advise by wire
SACK	Answering your letter
SAGE	Answering your telegram
SAINT	Best possible shipping date
SALON	Could you ship at once
SALT	Freight rate, carload, is
SAND	Freight rate, L. C. L., is
SAP	Have you shipped, or when will you ship
SASH	How soon could, or can, you ship
SATIRE	Order will not make minimum car weight
SAUCE	Our best L. C. L. discount is
SCALE	Our best carload discount is
SCAR	Ship at once by freight
SCARAB	Ship at once by freight prepaid
SEAT	Ship at once by express
SCENE	Ship at once by express prepaid
SCHEME	Ship in next car
SCOOP	Ship at once all you can of this order
SCORE	We could ship at once the following, balance in
SCOUR	We could ship at once on receipt of order
SCOWL	We could ship tomorrow
SCRIBE	We could ship in three or four days
SCUM	We could ship in one week
SCYTHE	We could ship in ten days
SEASON	We could ship in two weeks
SECRET	We could ship in three weeks
SEDAN	We could ship in four weeks
SEED	We could ship in six weeks
SENATE	We shipped yesterday
SENIOR	We shipped today
SENSE	We will ship today
SEIF	We will ship tomorrow
SHAD	We will ship in three or four days
SHAM	We will ship in one week
SHAWL	We will ship in ten days
SHEET	We will ship in two weeks
SHINE	We will ship in three weeks
SHOAL	We will ship in four weeks
SHOP	Will ship today the following, balance in
SHORE	We will ship today all except the following
SHRUB	When will you ship
SIGN	When can you ship
SIGNET	Will you send additional order

JASPER SEATING COMPANY
JASPER, INDIANA

OUR REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. L. H. McDaniel 1414 W. Tucker Street Fort Worth, Texas Home - 7-2383 Office 3-5435	Mr. A. C. Lampkin P. O. Box 38 Brookhaven, Georgia	Mr. E. J. Mitchell 5540 Delmar Blvd. St. Louis 12, Missouri Forest 2577	Office Furn. Whse. Co. 573 Broadway New York, New York Canal 6-0121-0122 H. A. Clemetsen
Mr. L. H. Farber 31 East Congress St. Chicago 5, Illinois Webster 9-3217	Mr. Paul C. Harris 1942 - 46th Ave. San Francisco 16, Calif. Seabright 2582	Mr. Arthur R. Frey 3851 Davenant Ave. Cincinnati 13, Ohio Melrose 4166	

This telegraphic code was provided to the company’s seven current sales representatives to help them communicate more effectively and easily.

1949

FEBRUARY 7, 1949
GENERAL MANAGER GUS KREIG ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF WOOD OFFICE FURNITURE INSTITUTE HEADQUARTERED IN WASHINGTON D.C.

1950

1950
THE CREDIT CARD WAS CREATED BY RALPH SCHNEIDER, A NEW HOME COST \$8,450 AND A GALLON OF GAS COST 18 CENTS

1950
EMPLOYEE COUNT AT JASPER SEATING COMPANY REACHED 121

SEPTEMBER 16, 1950
LOCAL 331 UNION EXPRESSED THANKS FOR A FIVE CENTS AN HOUR WAGE INCREASE GIVEN TO JASPER SEATING COMPANY EMPLOYEES

DECEMBER 1950
JASPER SEATING COMPANY GROSS SALES REACHED \$1,208,000

1951

1951
GENERAL MANAGER GUS KREIG ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE WOOD OFFICE FURNITURE INSTITUTE

1952

1952
COST OF THE 400 SERIES CHAIR (AMERICANA) WAS \$18.50 AND THE 980 SERIES CHAIR (BOSTON) WAS \$52.50

MARCH 5, 1952
WOOD OFFICE FURNITURE INSTITUTE SPONSORED THE TV PROGRAM "THE MAGIC TOUCH" WHICH SHOWED HOW OFFICES COULD BE BEAUTIFIED WITH WOOD FURNITURE



This 1953 catalog boasted that all curved parts on Craftsman Chairs were steam-bent rather than band sawed for greater strength and durability.

Jasper Seating established its own competitive initiatives by streamlining processes, introducing new product lines, and adding expensive equipment to increase production. Their literature also reflected the company's new plans to reintroduce customers to wood office furniture. Newly created catalogs incorporated innovative sales-making ideas to help better tell the story of Jasper Seating's quality-built Craftsman Chairs and to block the new inroads that were being made by their metal adversaries.



1953

SEPTEMBER 1953
WOOD OFFICE FURNITURE INSTITUTE LAUNCHED CERTIFIED OFFICE PLANNING SERVICES WITHIN THE INDUSTRY TO PROVIDE TOOLS FOR THE APPROVED OFFICE FURNITURE DEALER TO SELL AND INSTALL DECORATING, LIGHTING, FLOOR COVERINGS, DESKS, AND CHAIRS. THE PROGRAM WAS PROMOTED NATIONALLY IN *TIME* AND *BUSINESS WEEK* MAGAZINES

1956

1956
JASPER UNION CONTRACT SIGNED; JASPER SEATING COMPANY EMPLOYEES GRANTED FIVE CENTS PER HOUR WAGE INCREASE



1956
FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT BUILT IN CALDER HALL, ENGLAND

1956
RUSSIA LAUNCHED INTO SPACE THE FIRST SATELLITE NAMED SPUTNIK I

1957

NOVEMBER 29, 1957
JASPER SEATING COMPANY AND FIVE OTHER JASPER WOOD-WORKING PLANTS WERE CALLED CIVIC PIONEERS AFTER PAYING FOR TWO LOCAL WOMEN TO ATTEND THE SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL NURSING IN INDIANAPOLIS

1958

1958
THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES WITHIN THE OFFICE FURNITURE INDUSTRY REACHED 23,000

DECEMBER 15, 1958
JASPER SEATING BOARD APPOINTED GEORGE MEHRINGER AS GENERAL MANAGER UPON GUS KREIG'S RETIREMENT

Election To Be Held At Seating Co.

Production and maintenance employees of the Jasper Seating Company will soon be given the opportunity to vote on whether they want continued representation by a labor union and if so, by which one of two unions.

The National Labor Relations Board at Washington, D. C., yesterday ordered that an election be held among the Seating Company employees within the next 30 days.

The employees will have the right to choose between Local 331, UIU, which has represented them since 1948; the Jasper Union, an independent group; or no union.

The election was ordered on petition of the Jasper Seating Company last year after the Jasper Union presented to the Seating Company its claim as representative of the employees.

Officials of Local 331, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, attempted to block intervention by the Jasper Union, contending that the independent group is not a labor union within the meaning of the Taft-Hartley Act, but the NLRB overruled the contention of Local 331.

The 1950's were an important time for employees as they voted on Union representation that would bargain for better hours, wages, and working conditions on their behalf.

Seating Company Workers Choose Jasper Union

The production and maintenance employees of the Jasper Seating Company this morning voted to recognize an independent union as their bargaining agent instead of Local 331, UIU, which had represented them since 1948.

The vote was 53 in favor of the Jasper Union; 26 for Local 331 and five votes for no union. Four votes were challenged by Local 331 officials.

The president of the independent union is George Sermersheim, who at one time was president of Local 331.

This morning's election was conducted by Bruce Gillis, a field examiner for the National Labor Relations Board.

The election was ordered last year on petition of the company after the Jasper Union presented to the Seating Company its claim as the real representative of the employees. Officials of Local 331 attempted to block intervention by the independent union, contending that the Jasper Union is not a labor union within the meaning of the Taft-Hartley Act, but the NLRB overruled the contention of Local

Alaska and Hawaii are admitted as the 49th and 50th states. Fidel Castro becomes the prime minister of Cuba. U.S. satellite, Explorer 6, sends the first pictures of Earth from space. Jasper Seating gains new exposure as a premier chair manufacturer.

As the race to space heated up between the United States and the Soviet Union, the competition between wood and steel manufacturers gradually cooled down as both industries began to intermingle the use of materials; so much so, that by 1963 the word “wood” was dropped by the Wood Office Manufacturers Institute (WOFI) to become the short-lived Office Furniture Manufacturers Institute (OFMI).

President Kennedy’s announcement of plans to put a man on the moon increased spending on science and technology, resulting in numerous advancements in manufacturing operations that increased labor productivity, reduced material and maintenance costs, and improved efficiencies. Jasper Seating was quick to seize upon the opportunities to obtain new market growth, shrewdly jockeying for a stronger position among the pack of wood office manufacturers.

PROSPERITY GROWS



Gone are the days of simple black and white catalogs with color washed photos. Color had hit the pages with furniture being photographed in actual office room settings.

1959

1959

JASPER SEATING
COMPANY EXTERNAL
SALES REPS GREW TO
12 AND GROSS SALES
REACHED \$1,451,000

1960

1960

A NEW HOME COST
\$12,700, A GALLON OF
GAS COST 25 CENTS,
AND THE AVERAGE CAR
COST \$2,600

FEBRUARY 6, 1960

FOR THE FIRST
TIME, THE WOOD
OFFICE FURNITURE
INSTITUTE HELD
ITS 19TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION
OUTSIDE OF
WASHINGTON D.C.
AT THE FRENCH LICK
INDIANA SHERATON
HOTEL. DELEGATES
OF THE CONVENTION
TOURED JASPER
SEATING COMPANY
FURNITURE PLANT

1963

JULY 1963

JASPER SEATING
COMPANY VICE
PRESIDENT
JOHN L. ECKERT WAS
RE-ELECTED TO SERVE
A THIRD TERM AS A
WOOD OFFICE
FURNITURE
INSTITUTE DIRECTOR

1963

U.S. SENT SUBSTANTIAL
MILITARY FORCES TO
VIETNAM

NOVEMBER 22, 1963

PRESIDENT JOHN F.
KENNEDY ASSASSINATED
IN DALLAS, TEXAS

1967

JUNE 13, 1967

JASPER SEATING
FACTORY FIRE
CAUSED \$4,300 IN
DAMAGES. IT WAS
ESTIMATED THAT
500 PLANT WINDOWS
WERE BLOWN OUT OR
CRACKED DURING
THE BLAZE



Jasper Furniture On Sears Catalog Cover

Sears, Roebuck and Co. has published its first issue of a 76-page catalog featuring only business equipment and office supplies. A total of 33,000 of the catalogs are being printed.

The full-color front cover should make Jasperites real proud of their main industry, since all of the office furniture shown in the office setting was made in the local plants.

The desk, credenza and cabinet, all of walnut, were made by the Indiana Desk Company, while the three upholstered walnut chairs were made by the Jasper Seating Company, of which George Mehringer is manager. Sears representatives were in Jasper recently to discuss the new catalog with officials of the local plants, and are very optimistic about it.

The desks made by Indiana Desk are shown on pages 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69, while chairs made by Jasper Seating are featured on pages 62, 63, 64 and 69.

Prices in this book guaranteed until Dec. 31, 1960

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back

INDEX ON PAGE 40

Jasper Seating was making headlines during the 1960's when it appeared on the first cover of the 76-page Sears Business Equipment and Supply Catalog. The Catalog featured many of Jasper Seating's most popular chair styles in wood, leather, and vinyl.

Neil Armstrong is the first person to set foot on the moon. Civil Rights advocate, Martin Luther King, is assassinated. Half a million people attend a concert in upstate New York called Woodstock. Jasper Seating holds steady as recession hits the country.

Not since the Great Depression had America experienced such an economic downturn, but Jasper Seating had cut its teeth on such financial troubles and was prepared to weather the storm with its usual resilience and calm determination. By the mid-seventies, the economy had bounced back and growth in the office furniture industry was especially strong. Company sales soared over the two million dollar mark, proving once again that Jasper Seating had the stamina to not only survive, but also remain a fierce competitor within the office furniture market.



Cold institutional style conference rooms are a thing of the past, as seen here in this 1970's catalog. Interior designers are now decorating with drapes, carpet, artwork, and upscale seating.



Market research showed consumers preferred series names to model number series. In this chair sheet, notice the new Concorde name replaced the usual series number.

1969

RECESSION STRIKES

The seventies also brought about new challenges with the passage of the Clean Air Act amendment that established measures for controlling emissions into the air. By the end of the decade, well before state demands for compliance, Jasper Seating had made many of the necessary requirements for controlling emissions and had already taken important steps toward reducing energy use.



Jasper Seating's ability to remain flexible is demonstrated here with the addition of modern aluminum bases.

1969

1969
ASTRONAUT NEIL ARMSTRONG WALKED ON THE MOON WITH IMMORTAL WORDS, "ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND"

1970

1969
U.S. MILITARY INVENTED THE INTERNET AS TOOL FOR SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

1970
INTEL CREATED THE FIRST CHEAP MICRO-PROCESSOR LEADING THE WAY TO HOME COMPUTERS AND VIDEO GAMES

1970
DURING THE RECESSION, OFFICE FURNITURE INDUSTRY OUTPUT DROPPED 17% WHILE EMPLOYEE HOURS WERE REDUCED BY 6.6%

DECEMBER 1970
JASPER SEATING COMPANY GROSS SALES REACHED \$1,975,000

1971

DECEMBER 2, 1971
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) WAS CREATED

1973

1973
THE OFFICE FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS INSTITUTE BECAME WHAT IS KNOWN TODAY AS THE BUSINESS AND INSTITUTIONAL FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (BIFMA)

1977

AUGUST 25, 1977
EMPLOYEES OF JASPER SEATING COMPANY LEFT THEIR JOBS ON STRIKE, BRINGING PRODUCTION TO A HALT. WORK WAS RESUMED 15 DAYS LATER

U.S. Energy Crisis occurs in the wake of Iranian Revolution. Mother Teresa receives the Nobel Peace Prize. Rick Mears wins the Indianapolis 500. Jasper Seating celebrates 50 years of manufacturing quality wood seating.

In spite of rising energy costs, economic growth in the office furniture industry remained strong throughout most of the eighties, and Jasper Seating was no exception. In 1982, a two-phase expansion plan, totaling 100,000 sq. ft., quickly began to take shape after a \$1.5 million economic development bond issue was approved by the city council. The low interest loan was used to start the first phase of a 60,000 sq. ft. expansion expected to create 25 new jobs and to add \$300,000 to the payroll. The second phase would eventually add a second story over the existing Mill Street plant structure.



In 1985, construction of a new machine room and warehouse was taking place at the Jasper Seating Mill Street plant, adding 60,000 square feet and 25 new jobs.

EXPANSION HITS



Jasper Seating's ability to keep up with consumers' growing demands for more styles and colors was evident in these product shots for executive seating.



The popularity of the Boston chair line precipitated this reintroduction of the classic series with the addition of new chairs and benches.

1979

1979
JASPER SEATING COMPANY EMPLOYEE COUNT REACHED 133, PLUS 34 EXTERNAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES THAT SOLD PRODUCTS IN U.S. AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

1979
JASPER SEATING COMPANY IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION CONTROL TO COMPLY WITH CLEAN AIR ACT CODE OF 1977 AHEAD OF 1982 MANDATE. TO REDUCE ENERGY USE, LIGHTING, INSULATION, AND BOILER MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE, AND AIR FROM THE DUST COLLECTOR WAS RECYCLED. LONGER HOURS WERE WORKED ON WEEKDAYS TO AVOID HEATING PLANT ON SATURDAYS

1980

EARLY 1980'S
OFFICE FURNITURE INDUSTRY WAS VERY PROFITABLE WITH ANNUAL GROWTH RATES AVERAGING 19%

1980
FIRST JASPER SEATING COMPANY ANNUAL PICNIC STARTED IN CELEBRATION OF EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

1980
COST OF THE 400 SERIES CHAIR (AMERICANA) WAS \$120 AND THE 980 SERIES CHAIR (BOSTON) WAS \$265

DECEMBER 1980
JASPER SEATING COMPANY GROSS SALES REACHED \$3,645,000

1986

JANUARY 28, 1986
U.S. SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER BROKE APART DURING LIFT-OFF KILLING ALL ABOARD

The Berlin Wall collapses. The Soviet Union announces the end of the Cold War. Jasper Seating's future takes a new direction with casegoods manufacturing capabilities.

Despite a recession in the early nineties, demand for quality office furniture from smaller, mid-priced manufacturers was peaking, and Jasper Seating was strategically positioned to take full advantage of new opportunities. With doubled sales, the company was overflowing with orders and looking for growth into new markets. In 1994, Jasper Seating acquired Wood Design, a casegoods manufacturer in French Lick, Indiana. In 1996, Jasper Seating began marketing the products under the name of JSI, the company's new contract office furniture division.

One year earlier, in 1995, the company had decided to market its institutional products under the name Community to differentiate themselves from other Jasper competitors. Community's primary customers consist of schools, libraries, courthouses, and dormitories.



Gala traditional casegoods, with beautiful picture frame moulding and leather inlay tops, is just one of the many casegoods lines produced in JSI's French Lick manufacturing plant.

SALES DOUBLE



The superior quality of Wood Design casegoods was one of the deciding factors when Jasper Seating decided to expand its market presence.

JSI

The JSI brand was created in 1996 to market casegoods, seating, and conference contract furniture to the office furniture market.

Community brand was created in 1995 to help customers differentiate Jasper Seating Company from other Jasper competitors. Community's target markets include schools, libraries, courthouses, dormitories.

COMMUNITY



The Boston chair, shown here in this courtroom installation, is the perfect seating solution for stately, traditional applications.

1990

DECEMBER 1990
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY GROSS
SALES REACHED
\$7,669,000

1991

1991
WORLD WIDE WEB
BECAME AVAILABLE
FOR PUBLIC USE, AND
BY 2000 THERE WERE
NEARLY 300 MILLION
INTERNET USERS

1992

MAY 13, 1992
URBAN RASCHE, A
74-YEAR OLD LUMBER
GRADER, WAS THE
FIRST EMPLOYEE TO
ACHIEVE 50 YEARS
OF CONTINUOUS,
FULL-TIME SERVICE
AT JASPER SEATING
COMPANY. URBAN
RECALLED 90 HOUR
WORK WEEKS
DURING WORLD WAR II
AND WAGES OF 48
CENTS PER HOUR

1994

DECEMBER 21, 1994
JASPER SEATING
COMPANY EXPANDED
WITH THE ACQUISITION
OF WOOD DESIGN, A
CASEGOODS MANUFACTURER
LOCATED IN
FRENCH LICK, INDIANA

1995

1995
COMMUNITY BRAND
LAUNCHED TO MARKET
PRODUCTS TO
INSTITUTIONAL
FURNITURE MARKET

1996

NOVEMBER, 1996
JSI BRAND LAUNCHED
TO MARKET PRODUCTS
TO CONTRACT OFFICE
FURNITURE MARKET

1996
OFFICE FURNITURE
DISTRIBUTION
CHANNELS SHIFTED
WITH ONE-THIRD
OF SALES GOING
THROUGH OFFICE
PRODUCT MEGADEALERS,
SUPERSTORES,
WAREHOUSE CLUBS,
OR OTHER MASS
MERCHANDISERS

Lance Armstrong wins his first of seven Tour de France races. World population reaches six billion. Exxonmobil Corp merger forms largest company in the world. Jasper Seating's sales grow at a record rate of 10 to 15 percent each year in the new millennium.

For many office manufacturers, the new millennium was not the beginning they had hoped for, but for Jasper Seating, gross sales had quadrupled in the last decade to over \$31.5 million. Jasper Seating's diversification allowed the company to withstand harsh economic times. They began importing Italian-built frames as a way to offer more choices in the hospitality market without the jig-and-fixture costs of starting up additional tooling lines.

In an initiative to focus attention on growth opportunities, Jasper Seating created three new divisions—Vintage and Liberty Seating for the hospitality market and Jasper Library Furniture. By the end of 2003, the company had grown to include four production facilities, housing a total of over 650,000 square feet of manufacturing capabilities for its now five divisions.

1999

UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH



The Vintage division, introduced in May of 2003, focused on the restaurant and hotel furnishings industry and appealed to the customer with an eye on design. Its product lines featured designs from Northern Italy.



Introduced in September 2003, the Liberty division offered a collection of affordable seating for hotels, restaurants, offices, and schools.



JASPER
LIBRARY
FURNITURE



Launched in August 2003, Jasper Seating's new library division had made a major impact in the market place and peaked the interest of many architects, designers, and library specialists on a national level.

Jasper Library Furniture continues to offer custom and standard products that include starter/adder bookcases, study carrels, desks, tables, and library chairs.

2000

2000
Y2K PASSED WITHOUT THE SERIOUS AND WIDESPREAD COMPUTER FAILURES AND MALFUNCTIONS PREDICTED

2000
JASPER SEATING COMPANY OPENED THIRD MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN FERDINAND, INDIANA

2000
AN AVERAGE NEW HOME COST \$134,150, A GALLON OF GAS COST \$1.26, AND THE AVERAGE CAR COST \$24,750

DECEMBER 2000
JASPER SEATING COMPANY GROSS SALES QUADRUPLD AND REACHED \$31,754,000

2001

2001
LARGEST SINGLE ORDER IN JASPER SEATING COMPANY HISTORY PRODUCED 3,600 EMERSON CHAIRS FOR BILL GATES, FOUNDER OF MICROSOFT, FOR CONTRIBUTION TO CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM. IT TOOK NINE TRAILER LOADS AND THREE MONTHS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001
FOUR COMMERCIAL JETLINERS WERE HIJACKED AND DELIBERATELY FLOWN INTO THE WORLD TRADE CENTER IN NEW YORK CITY, THE PENTAGON IN ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA, AND A FIELD IN SOMERSET COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA WHICH LAUNCHED THE U.S. "WAR ON TERROR"

2002

2002
NEW FRENCH LICK PLANT EMPLOYEES CREDITED WITH PLANT'S CASEGOODS SUCCESS; EMPLOYEES RECEIVED A COMPANY WIDE BONUS OF \$30,000

2002
PURCHASED FOURTH MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN PAOLI, IN

Due to the steady growth at Jasper Seating Company and its divisions, the need to combine their “front-end” operations was inevitable. In 2004, renovation began on their new corporate office building on Clay Street in Jasper, Indiana.

The company continued its focus on the hospitality industry as well. At the end of 2004, Jasper Seating acquired Klem Furniture Co. in St. Anthony, Indiana, making it their sixth division.

Diversity alone does not explain why company sales had grown by \$20 million between 2004 and 2005. While the company had certainly expanded in volume, it had also been investing in quality. In 2005, it implemented a Quality Management System to control production. Jasper Seating also maintains a build-to-order manufacturing system that allows them to ship in two to three weeks to customers through a network of distributors and commercial dealers across the U.S. However, in a never-ending pursuit to meet the demand of today’s market needs, most would agree their success continues to be defined by how they treat their customers.



This 114,000 sq. ft. facility serves as the corporate headquarters. The new offices allow the company to streamline processes, narrow communication gaps, promote divisional interaction, and, most importantly, better serve their customers.



Klem Hospitality dates back to 1933 and has specialized in the hospitality industry for over 30 years. One of the company’s many strengths is its ability to make custom built furniture at a competitive price.



Wood and Wood Products, a leading industry magazine, recognized Jasper Seating Company as one of the top 100 fastest-growing woodworking companies in the U.S. The company received the award for the eighth time in ten years and ranked 77th on their list of companies celebrating double-digit growth.

2004

FEBRUARY 4, 2004
JASPER SEATING COMPANY CELEBRATED ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

AUGUST 2004
CORPORATE ERGONOMICS PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED TO REDUCE RISK OF EMPLOYEE MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS SUCH AS CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME

FEBRUARY 2004
PAOLI PLANT EXPANDED 183,000 SQ. FT. AND EQUIPPED WITH TWO MILLION DOLLARS OF STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT TO KEEP PACE WITH GROWING PRODUCTION

NOVEMBER 2, 2004
JASPER SEATING COMPANY RELOCATED ITS CORPORATE OFFICES TO 114,000 SQ. FT. FACILITY AT 225 CLAY STREET IN JASPER

NOVEMBER 30, 2004
OTHMAR KLEM FURNITURE COMPANY ACQUIRED IN ST. ANTHONY, INDIANA ADDING HOSPITALITY MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES

NOVEMBER 2004
JASPER SEATING MILL STREET PLANT ADDED STATE-OF-THE-ART CNC MACHINERY AND MZ SAW (ONE OF ONLY THREE IN THE COUNTRY) AND INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY BY 15%

2005

2005
JOHN ACKERMAN, AGE 99, WAS THE ONLY LIVING EMPLOYEE WHO BEGAN WITH THE COMPANY IN 1929

2005
COST OF THE 400 SERIES CHAIR (AMERICANA) WAS \$215 AND THE 980 SERIES CHAIR (BOSTON) WAS \$585.50

Community's Library division focuses on the institutional market with sizes and designs for school library age children kindergarten through grades 12.

COMMUNITY



As the company approached its 80th Anniversary, the nation's economy was once again a threat to many furniture manufacturers, but sales continued to grow at a record-breaking pace at Jasper Seating. As production lines reached full capacity, leadership continued to add manufacturing facilities for ensured quality and guaranteed delivery. By the end of 2008, the company had acquired the assets of Blanton and Moore, Inc. in North Carolina and the assets of RomWeber in Batesville, Indiana, bringing the total number of facilities to nine and gross sales to \$85 million.

To meet growing demands, Jasper Seating unrolled some important new initiatives, including the construction of a new 14,000 sq. ft. showroom at its corporate campus in Jasper, Indiana, and the consolidation of brands in favor of investing in its growing entities, namely JSI, Community, Klem, and Jasper Library Furniture.

During a time when many furniture makers had shuttered their operations or consolidated manufacturing overseas, Jasper Seating announced that after 79 years it was changing its company name to Jasper Group to reflect its wide array of furniture products and available resources.



With a reclaimed black walnut paneled ceiling, archways, and a roaring fire-place, this 14,000 sq. ft. showroom features more than 50 collections showing how products can be endlessly combined to meet the needs of the people who use them...from eager school children, to multi-tasking business people, to savvy hotel guests.

2006

APRIL 4, 2006
JASPER SEATING COMPANY RECEIVED LIBERTY MUTUAL GOLD SAFETY AWARD FOR ONE MILLION MAN-HOURS WITH NO LOST TIME FOR INJURIES

APRIL 24, 2006
MADE2MANAGE SYSTEMS HONORED JASPER SEATING COMPANY FOR USING MANUFACTURING SOFTWARE TO INCREASE REVENUES BY 25%

MAY 2006
JASPER LIBRARY DIVISION LANDED RECORD ORDER FOR UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA DAVID RICE LIBRARY

2006
PURCHASED 5-AXIS CNC MORTISE MACHINE, THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN THE COUNTRY. IT MACHINES SIX SEPARATE PIECES OF WOOD AT A TIME ON THREE SIDES ALLOWING PROGRAMMING FOR AS MANY HOLES AS NEEDED PER SIDE

2007

AUGUST 27, 2007
BLANTON & MOORE PLANTS IN NORTH CAROLINA ACQUIRED, ADDING ADDITIONAL WOOD LIBRARY FURNITURE MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES

OCTOBER 2007
JASPER SEATING UNVEILED NEW 14,000 SQ. FT. SHOWROOM AT JASPER CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS AND NEW RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

2008

2008
ROMWEBER FURNITURE IN BATESVILLE, INDIANA WAS ACQUIRED, ADDING ADDITIONAL KLEM HOSPITALITY FURNITURE MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES



2008

JASPER SEATING COMPANY, INC. CARVES OUT A
NEW FUTURE AS JASPER GROUP

This name change was about a lot more than just putting a new sign above the door. While proud of its seating tradition, Jasper Seating Company had become much more than just a chair manufacturer. It was now a diverse group of people providing casegoods and seating for various industries. The hand in the logo represents the company's long history of hand crafting furniture since 1929. Its new name better positions the company for growth in the future.

divisions

JASPER GROUP 2009

In a never-ending pursuit to meet the demand of today's market needs, Jasper Group currently supports four different divisions: JSI, a total furniture solution for offices; Community for the public use markets of schools, colleges, government, and dining facilities; Klem, designed for hotels and resorts; and Jasper Library Furniture, a complete furniture solution for the entire library with unique custom capabilities.



JSI

COMMUNITY

klem
HOSPITALITY

JASPER
LIBRARY
FURNITURE

facilities

JASPER GROUP 2009

With nine production facilities housing over 1.5 million square feet, the divisions of Jasper Group continue its traditions of excellence by maintaining its own lumber yards; mill rooms; rare steam-bending capabilities; and hand crafting methods like embossing leather, embroidering fabrics, and upholstering each piece completely and individually. As Jasper Group continues to change and grow, it will remain committed to bringing its customers the same value and dedication into the next 80 years.



MILL STREET, JASPER, IN

Original site for the Jasper Seating Company in 1929, this 106,000 sq. ft., U-shaped factory was expanded in 1985 to include a 100,000 sq. ft. machine room and warehouse. Today the plant continues to manufacture quality wood and upholstered seating products.



FRENCH LICK, IN

This 150,000 sq. ft. plant was the manufacturing facility for Wood Design office furniture until Jasper Group acquired it in December 1994 to manufacture caseloads under the name of JSI, the company's contract office furniture division.



FERDINAND, IN

The company purchased this third manufacturing facility originally to manufacture hospitality furniture. Today, the 120,000 sq. ft. plant manufactures quality wood and upholstered seating products.



PAOLI, IN

Originally purchased in 2002, the 180,000 sq. ft. plant was being used for light manufacturing, but after a 183,000 sq. ft. expansion in 2004 and \$2 million state-of-the-art equipment update, the Paoli plant manufactures JSI office furniture.



CORPORATE OFFICE, JASPER, IN

Renovated 114,000 sq. ft. building serves as corporate headquarters and includes a 14,000 sq. ft. showroom constructed with many reclaimed and green materials. The facility opened November 30, 2004 and is also home to the company's Research and Development department for engineering new, cutting-edge designs.



ST. ANTHONY, IN

November 30, 2004, the company acquired Klem Furniture Company. The 138,000 sq. ft. plant continues to manufacture hospitality furniture for the hotel and resort industry. While offering standard lines of furniture, Klem is known for its ability to make custom built products.



BARIUM SPRINGS, NC

Blanton & Moore library furniture manufacturer was acquired on August 27, 2007 to help increase Jasper Group's capacity to meet growing demand for all of its products. Renowned for its abilities to do complex custom installations, the acquisition was a synergistic match that allowed Jasper Group to expand its overall product offering.



TAYLORSVILLE, NC

Jasper Group acquired the 100,000 sq. ft. plant in 2008 to manufacture Jasper Group's Community library furniture and to operate as the finishing facility of specialized library products manufactured at the Barium Springs, NC plant.



BATESVILLE, IN

In September of 2008, Jasper Group acquired the assets of RomWeber Furniture Factory. With over 400,000 sq. ft. of office, showroom, and manufacturing space, this makes Jasper Group Batesville its largest facility. The plant manufactures Klem brand products for the hotel room, but will operate as a support plant for all brands.

team

JASPER GROUP 2009

MILL STREET, JASPER, IN



CORPORATE OFFICE, JASPER, IN



At Jasper Group, its edge as a company is the production expertise and longevity of its employees. Their dedication, discipline, and open-mindedness to tackling new challenges have always been the driving force behind the company's 80 years of success. From the beginning, the goal of the company has been to provide quality products, competitive prices, excellent customer service, and the shortest lead times possible. Jasper Group has always depended on its employees to rise to the challenge...and they always have.

FRENCH LICK, IN



FERDINAND, IN



team

JASPER GROUP 2009

PAOLI, IN



ST. ANTHONY, IN



2009 MANUFACTURING PLANT MANAGERS

MILL STREET, IN	MARK KLUEMPER
FRENCH LICK, IN	MIKE ECKSTEIN
FERDINAND, IN	BOB HUFF
PAOLI, IN	ED BROWN
ST. ANTHONY, IN	TONY BEIKER
BARIUM SPRINGS, NC	ANTHONY MOORE
TAYLORSVILLE, NC	HAROLD KORTMAN
BATESVILLE, IN	MARK LIMARDO

BARIUM SPRINGS, NC



TAYLORSVILLE, NC

