Maximum Power
Combined With
Maximum Growth Potential

ASPI's 350,000 sq. ft. facility combines the resources of multiple company divisions. Alabama Research and Development provides engineering services and new product development. Alabama Laser Technologies began as a laser processing service and now provides a complete range of job shop services. Alabama Laser was formed to handle research/development and production of custom laser systems.

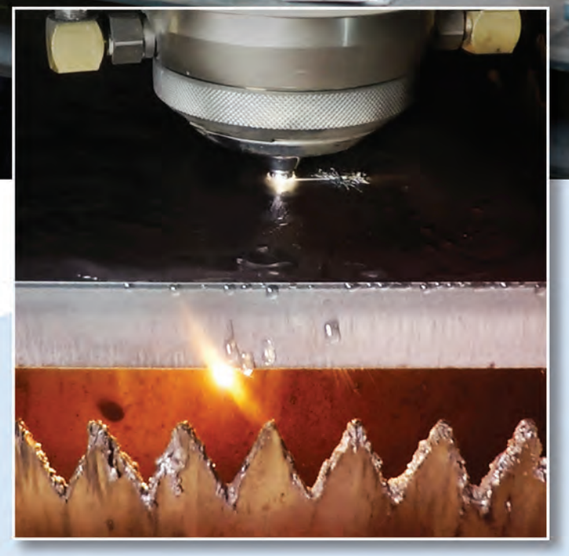
In 1980, Don Johnson started Metal Samples Company with two employees. Today, the company is corporately known as Alabama Specialty Products, Inc. (ASPI) and has grown to include over 220 employees. ASPI is a diverse company with multiple divisions, and provides complete metal fabrication services. The company also builds custom laser machines for welding, cladding, and cutting. ASPI provides laser research & development services, maintains an engineering resource group, and is a world leader in the field of corrosion coupons & monitoring systems. Due to the company's expertise in the corrosion field, ASPI serves over 10,000 customers worldwide with approximately $50 million in annual sales. Don Johnson is the current President/CEO of ASPI. Don's son, Timothy, serves as V.P. Manufacturing.

For over 25 years, ASPI has partnered with AMADA. In 2018, Tim Johnson brought a highly-trained team of ASPI staff members to FABTECH Atlanta. The purchasing team, composed of ASPI's job shop supervisor and laser operators, came to evaluate AMADA's ENSIS fiber laser. According to Johnson, "After witnessing the power and cutting speed that the 9kW ENSIS brought to the table, it was easy to see that automation would add substantial value and a quicker return on our investment by ensuring maximum machine utilization. We considered both the 6kW and the 9kW models. However, we wanted the most power available because we are very confident in the growth potential the ENSIS and AMS CLT provide."

Installation for the ENSIS 3015 and AMS 3015 CLT — a modular automation system that easily expands as demands evolve — were complete on June 17, 2019. Afterwards, ASPI quickly began cutting corrosion coupons. Johnson reports that he is very pleased with the purchases, "Based on the ability of the ENSIS to cut a wide variety of materials and thicknesses, ASPI's goals are to increase our product line, maintain current prices, and increase quality. Additionally, the CLT provides a hedge of protection against changes in the economy because automation maximizes utilization of the ENSIS. The CLT provides manufacturing flexibility by allowing us to load different types of materials and a variety of thicknesses. This enables us to respond with maximum efficiency to rush jobs, and longer production runs. Material loading and unloading are quick and precise while reducing our manpower requirements."

(Continued on page 16)

Timothy Johnson, V.P. Manufacturing and Tony Jewah, Laser Machine Operator



For industries such as Process Control, Chemical Treatment, Waste Water and Manufacturing, test coupons provide an effective measurement of corrosion within a system. By observing the mils-per-year corrosion rate of an exposed coupon, valuable information can be provided regarding the material's life expectancy. As a world leader in the field of corrosion coupons & monitoring systems, ASPI can produce coupons in virtually any size, shape, or material.

"The 9kW ENSIS Fiber Laser and AMS CLT Automation give a hedge of protection against changes in the economy." — Timothy Johnson, V.P. Manufacturing

The AMS 3015 CLT is equipped with a 10-shelf material storage Tower. The capacity to store and quickly retrieve a variety of materials and thicknesses provides the ideal solution for high-mix, low-volume production. Automation also accelerates ROI while reducing lead times, labor costs and operating costs.

ALABAMA SPECIALTY PRODUCTS, INC.

Reflecting on ASPI's partnership with AMADA Johnson states, "Given the fact that we've owned and operated over 40 various laser systems, and we custom design laser cutting systems, we know that if you don't invest wisely you run the risk of outgrowing what you purchase. AMADA is a highly-innovative company with a proven history of providing excellent service and support. This has not been true of some of the other manufacturers from whom we've purchased equipment. As a result, when it came time to invest in newer technology — specifically the ENSIS and AMS CLT — AMADA was the clear choice."

To accommodate material flow, all AMS 3015 CL modules feature a symmetrical design that allows their placement to be either on the front or rear side of a laser cutting system.