

Nebraska Distinguished Entrepreneurs 2005

Ronald K. Parks, Millard Manufacturing Corporation

Ron Parks is majority owner of Millard Manufacturing Corporation, a stainless steel fabricator specializing in custom food processing machinery and equipment for large volume industrial food processing plants. Among their products are continuous poultry processing systems, canning industry machinery, red meat and pork equipment, and sculpture. During the downtime of the plant, Parks creates metal sculptures that can weigh up to 12,000 pounds. Parks' interest in art began as a teenager when he painted theater sets and continues as he creates monumental sculptures in metal, wood, and stone. Parks combines the creative process with the knowledge and experience gained from fifty years of inventing, designing, and fabricating in metals and other materials. His sculptures are products not only of his creativity, but also of his appreciation for modern fabrication materials and methods. The employee stock ownership company provides an ideal structure for the 50 owner/employees to keep abreast of the newest trends in their industry. For example, they use the best computerization for the job shop manufacturing and parts. The single unit job shop makes a limited number of genuinely unique products.

