



JIT SOLUTIONS

3rd Quarter - 2007

SAVE THE DATE

JIT Companies would like to invite you to our open house scheduled for Thursday, September 20th from 1:30pm - 4:30pm. We'll be conducting tours of our facility which will include the stained glass studio and the waterjet shop. This will give you the opportunity to view first-hand some of the techniques and processes that go into some of our projects.

We will be giving away waterjet cut samples to everyone in attendance and we will also draw for a door prize at the end of the event. Invitations will be sent out later this summer. We look forward to seeing you there.



CUSTOMER PROFILE

Split Rock Studios specializes in creating cultural and natural history exhibits for museums, interpretive centers, aquariums, zoos, political institutions. . . you name it – they've done it. And they never stopped enjoying it.

Challenge: The projects at Split Rock Studios are usually one-of-a-kind displays that are artistically designed and need architectural engineering for the installation. The Key West Eco Discovery Center project had its quirks... It was an exterior installation on an existing building so it would be exposed to an outdoor, ocean environment. A canopy covered sidewalk ran along-side the building. The display elements would have to be installed without removing the canopy supports for the sidewalk.

The final design included native fish, animals and plants, waterjet cut out of 1/2" aluminum. Each design element would be welded and powder coated. The largest element, a school of fish, was 48 feet long by 12 feet tall. The project included a somewhat long quoting process. However, once the project got underway the turn around had to be quick; approximately three to four weeks.

- Because of the powder coating we needed waterjet cutting so the paint would stick to the cut edge. The heat of a laser alters the chemical make up of the metal and paint will not permanently adhere to the edge.
- Because of the large size of the elements we needed a waterjet cutter that had a large cutting surface.
- Because of the artistic element we needed a waterjet company that could use their waterjet as an artistic tool to achieve the quality that our customer expected.

- Because we had to live with-in a budget we needed a waterjet cutter that would quote the job accurately, including all specifications, and then complete the job according to what they had quoted with regard to both price and timing.

Solution: JIT Companies was referred to us as a waterjet job shop that specialized in one-off, more artistically challenging jobs. Their six foot by twelve foot Dynamic Waterjet® could accommodate the twelve foot dimension of the largest element and their experience could accommodate how to cut the balance of the design on the longer dimension. We sent them a CAD file and they cleaned up the artwork to ensure smooth edges and sharp corners. JIT has more technology for dealing with artwork than the average waterjet job shop. JIT also engineered where to splice the elements to accommodate the installation around the canopy structure and the shipping of these large pieces to Florida. The job took four weeks to complete.

Result: The wall sculpture went together just as we planned. We were amazed at how incredibly easy it was to work with JIT Companies. We were impressed with their quality of work and their ability to understand the overall scope of the project, even to the extent that they could offer value-added engineering. JIT Companies has gained our confidence and we plan on continuing our relationship with them in the future.

CAPABILITIES OF JIT CLASSIC GLASS

JIT Classic Glass and JIT Waterjet, the two divisions that comprise JIT Companies, harmonize their fabrication capabilities to provide special niche services across a number of industries. JIT Companies began 23 years ago as a leaded and stained glass fabrication business. Today, JIT Classic Glass manages an array of fabrication techniques to craft items from flat sheet glass. Our experience and knowledge in working with and handling glass makes us an excellent choice for the project management of glass projects that utilize a number of fabrication techniques. We are skilled at helping specify these techniques, managing the process and then guiding the installation to complete the project in a budget conscience manner.

Glass has an innate problem; it breaks. But the expertise at JIT reduces the amount of breakage through proper handling and proper packaging for shipping. Let our experience be your guide if your project might include any one or a combination any of the following products or services.

- **Sandblast etching:** You provide the artwork and we can provide the resist that will make the artwork come alive. Typically this application is used in signage, awards, and lighting. A back paint-fill can be combined with this technique to provide a more artistic effect.
- **Glass Lamination:** The utilization of PVB laminating or liquid laminating provides endless possibilities for visual outcomes. PVB laminating offers the opportunity to add colors, digital prints or textures between glass. Rice paper is currently a popular texture to use as a laminate center. White ink can provide a frosted glass effect without abrading the surface of the glass. Liquid laminating provides the opportunity to combine two pieces of textured glass. Crazy Laminating consists of a piece of tempered glass that is laminated between two pieces of clear-float glass. After lamination the middle, tempered layer is broken; which produces a crackled effect but with a smooth surface. This is beautiful in a countertop application as well as lighted signage.
- **Kiln formed glass:** JIT is a distributor for UltraGlas. We are experts at helping specify patterns and radius. Installing a radius piece of the kiln formed glass is not an average installation. You can trust JIT to work directly with the contractors to get it properly installed without breakage.
- **Glass distribution:** JIT inventories most textured glass patterns in oversized sheets (60" x 84"). These oversized sheets provide for better optimization with our cabinet manufacturers. However, JIT can source glass for smaller glass projects as well. We can assist you with sample colors and textures, and then execute your order. The customer

does not have to fulfill manufacturing minimums.

- **Leaded and stained glass:** We utilize the Old World Method when fabricating our leaded glass panels which consists of hand puttying of the panels. This prevents rattling of the glass and it also renders a beautiful, patina finish with lasting strength.
- **Beveling and edge finishing:** These are techniques that JIT Companies regularly specifies for its customers. The thickness of the glass is directly related to the width of the flat bevel and or the dimension of an ogee shape. The edge finish must be specified for both the sheen and the shape. Sheen would include a bead blasted edge or a highly polished edge. The shape could include flat edge, pencil edge or rock edge shape.
- **Waterjet cutting:** Waterjet is known to cut through anything; including glass. However, not every waterjet operator wants to tackle the cutting of glass. Careful handling techniques must occur to get the glass on the bed of the waterjet without breakage. Special cutting methods and bed surfaces must be used to eliminate clam shelling and cracks running through the glass. Waterjet cutting glass is JIT's forte'. Waterjet is also the only way that laminated glass can be cut. Designers can achieve beautiful outcomes when they combine laminated glass with waterjet cutting.

MORE ABOUT JIT COMPANIES

JIT Companies fabricates unique projects and custom parts for design professionals, specialty contractors and a broad range of manufacturers. We focus on challenging, short-run projects that require high quality outcomes. Our capabilities include custom waterjet cutting services and made-to-order glass fabrications for both architectural and industrial applications.

We process all types of metal, glass, stone, foam, plastics and laminates. We smoothly integrate into your production cycle to reduce your production costs and overall time-to-market. We have had experience with many different materials, techniques and technological changes. It has always been our mission to maintain Old World quality, even as we introduce New World technology into our fabrications.

For well over twenty years, we have provided innovative solutions to the likes of Goodrich Corporation, Hutchinson Technology, Medallion Cabinetry, and The Science Museum of Minnesota; to name a few. We have succeeded in coming up with solutions when others have said that it could not be done; let our experience be your guide.

JIT COMPANIES

240 Shamrock Drive
Green Isle, MN 55338
Toll Free: (800) 279-6933
Fax: (507) 326-5244
info@jitwaterjet.com
www.jitcompanies.com