



# JIT SOLUTIONS

2nd Quarter - 2008



## JIT Companies, Inc. Assists in the Signing of the New Gaylord Public Library

JIT Companies was part of the solution in completing the new Gaylord Public Library; a community project for the citizens of Gaylord, MN.

The culmination of a community project such as this includes the coordination and communication between many groups: architects, designers, general contractors and subcontractors; as well as the community factions of city council, library board and library staff.

The architects and designers of Short, Elliot, Hendrickson (S.E.H.) tagged JIT Companies as the subcontractor to work on this project because they knew JIT would provide input that would add value to the overall project. JIT's capabilities and fabrication techniques would satisfy needs of all factions involved including: best fabrication techniques for specified materials, accommodations for efficient installation and providing visual samples to aid the local community groups in making decisions about the signage and its final appearance.



There were many facets to this particular project; two of which are pictured above. Following, are descriptions of the pictured elements.

Interior Dedication Plaque: (Pictured Top Left) Glass panel with a 2nd surface etch and paint fill; attached to an Aluminum backer panel. Aluminum backer panel has a Clear Coat Satin Powder Coat finish. A miniature waterjet cut "tree" logo was also applied to the backer.

Exterior Corner Logo: (Pictured Above Left) Twenty-two gauge corrugated metal with reverse cut "tree" logo and letters to read "Gaylord Public Library". A Powder Coat finish was applied as well as a LED back-lighting system.

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## Suitable for Waterjet Series

"Suitable for Waterjet" is a four part series that examines estimating simulations along with cutting options that may benefit a shape cutting project. The value of the option is dictated by the parameters of the project. Part 3 highlights tool settings.

Tool Settings: Abrasive, Dynamic, low-pressure pierce, and speed are some of the most frequently adjusted tool settings. The abrasive setting is really a two part scenario. Cutting with water only will reduce the cut time, but can only be used on thin, light, foamy type materials. JIT often uses this setting to cut VHB tape into letter shapes. VHB tape is an excellent technique for mounting small letters that can not be drilled and tapped to signage substrates. The other half of the abrasive setting is to determine the grit size. Eighty mesh is used on virtually everything, but on applications where the following come into play:

- the edge finish is a key measurement of part quality
- a smaller nozzle needs to be used to cut tight corners
- it is a very small part
- materials being cut are glass, plastic or some types of aluminum

JIT will change the grit to 120 mesh and even has 150 mesh available, if need be. Most other waterjet operators do not offer these types of options.

The Dynamic feature, on our waterjets, is a tool setting that is used when cutting parts that have high tolerances or are cut from thick materials. It is a setting that will increase the cut time, so it is used only in those applications rather than for less precise applications such as sign lettering.

Inherent to waterjet cutting is the fact that the waterjet can pierce the material and eliminate the need for a lead in cut. Low-pressure pierce is a setting that becomes invaluable when piercing brittle materials; anything that would break if it were dropped. It is one of the features that enhance JIT's expertise with regard to cutting glass. It should be noted that laminated materials can easily be cut on the waterjet, but piercing these materials with the waterjet can separate the layers. In these instances holes are predrilled and then the waterjet begins cutting from one of the predrilled holes.

The speed at which the X/Y drive travels is adjustable and does affect the edge quality of the part. The technicians will always examine this variable during quoting simulations.

Post Cutting Processes will be the final topic in part 4 of this series, "Suitable for Waterjet". Part four will be included in the next edition of "JIT Solutions"; due out next quarter.

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### **JIT Companies Featured in Stone Business Magazine**

JIT Companies was featured in the February 2008 edition of Stone Business Magazine. The focus of the article highlighted how JIT Companies worked with Twin City Tile & Marble to fabricate a unique fireplace for Methodist Hospital in Minneapolis, MN. Two inch thick, gray, limestone needed to be cut into shapes that were married together at joints that curved both up and down. With the water jet, what could have been a fairly plain installation was transformed into a modern piece of art and reduced installation time to only two days. Please use the following website address to read the article: <http://www.jitwaterjet.com/news.html>.

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### **More about JIT Companies Inc.**

JIT Companies Inc. 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.

### **Mission Statement**

*"Blending experience with innovation and technology to create custom solutions."*

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## **JIT COMPANIES**

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