



## Top Micromachining Contract Manufacturer Completes \$1.9 Million Manufacturing Expansion

*Norman Noble boosts automation, increases research and process development capabilities  
for the finishing of medical devices & implants*

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, OHIO – November 20, 2008 - Medical device contract manufacturer Norman Noble, Inc. today announced the completion of a \$1.9 million expansion of its metal finishing operations.

The expansion, which was conducted in strict adherence with ASTM standards, centered on increasing the level of automation in Norman Noble's production finishing capabilities. The changes include automating the company's processes for chemical descaling of laser-cut materials as well as automating its passivation and finishing lines and various polishing processes. Additionally, the company enhanced its existing environmental controls critical to the development and manufacturing processes including humidity, temperature and filtering parameters.

The investment, which doubles the capacity of its finishing research and development and production finishing operations was prompted by market growth and customer demand for metallic and PEEK based medical devices and implants used in cardiovascular, orthopedic, and sports medicine applications.

In particular, Norman Noble Vice President of Manufacturing Dan Stefano said requests from current customers for increased production of custom Nitinol-based products combined with a company strategy to diversify its capabilities for the development and production of micro medical devices necessitated the expansion.

"The combination of market factors made a compelling business case for expansion," Stefano said. "This investment further solidifies our position as a leading micromachining supplier with capabilities that span the full manufacturing spectrum from prototyping to full production and finishing – all under one roof." Stefano added that the expansion also positions the company well to support manufacturing of implants required for a growing orthopedic market.

As part of the expansion Norman Noble also reorganized its top technical experts around specific research and development and production functions. Moving these key personnel from multi-functional roles, enables them to achieve a heightened level of expertise and aligns with the business' commitment to quality and precision.

### **About Norman Noble, Inc.**

Norman Noble, Inc. was established over 60 years ago and remains a family-owned and -operated company offering the most advanced processes for ultra-precision micromachining. The company is known for its exceptional expertise and its ability to achieve subminiature precision beyond the reach of most manufacturers. Norman Noble, Inc. is a supplier to most of the largest OEM's and well known names in the medical device industry.

Norman Noble manufactures medical devices and implants to customer specifications in compliance with FDA regulations and ISO 9001 and ISO 13485. State-of-the-art processes include laser machining & welding, Swiss turning & milling, conventional and wire EDM, high-speed 7-axis contour milling, Nitinol shape setting and clean room assembly & packaging. Prototype services are available in separate & fully dedicated departments. For more information please visit [www.nnoble.com](http://www.nnoble.com).

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