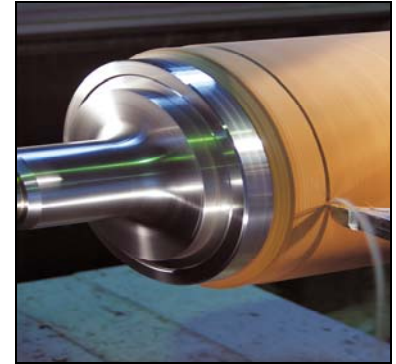




FKM USA, LLC

FKM USA, LLC was established in 2000 by Dr. Ulrich Freudenberg, as an extension of FKM Walzentechnik, which is located in Duisburg, Germany. FKM Walzentechnik has been producing high-quality coating of polyurethane and non-woven fabric and steel rolls and rollers for over 30 years in conjunction with Freudenberg Works. FKM USA relocated to Frankfort, Illinois from Glenwood, Illinois in March of 2006. Before moving to Frankfort, FKM USA was solely an outsourcing company. With the move to Frankfort, larger facilities have allowed it to bring most of the roll manufacturing processes in house increasing its size from three full time employees to twelve full time employees. Rolls produced by FKM USA are used for a variety of purposes and range from a length of 23 to 180 inches and up to a 72 inch diameter. Their products are customized to meet the needs of their customers.



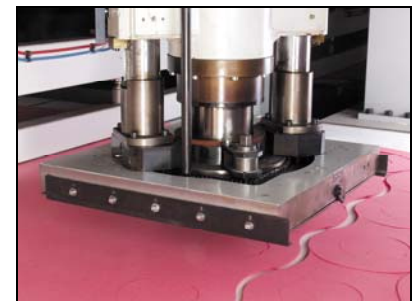
Representatives of FKM USA became aware of the Business Grants for Employee Training Program administered through the Workforce Investment Board of Will County when meeting with the Village of Frankfort to discuss recent in-house improvements. They were successful in obtaining funding to offset costs associated with employee training in the following areas:



- Implementation of an automated management information system (Global Shop Solutions) that allows the company to accurately track real time spent to manufacture a product as well as related shipping, invoicing, and inspection functions
- Use and maintenance of a newly acquired Safop lathe, grinder combination machine that allows the company to expand its production capabilities
- Print reading and micrometer usage to insure journals are correctly calibrated

As a result of the Global Shop Solutions training, FKM USA has eliminated its reliance on hand completed paperwork, use of Excel spreadsheets, and other business software and instead is using a fully integrated management software solution. In addition to tracking each step of the production process, the system interfaces with inventory, purchasing and accounting data.

More detailed and accurate records make it easier to prepare a comparison analysis of jobs, identify ways to increase efficiency, and competitively price services and products. Training on the Safop lathe enabled the machine operator to fully utilize the new machine's capabilities and have an increased level of confidence in his ability to operate and maintain the machinery. For the company, training included the cross training of personnel, eliminating dependence on a single person's ability to operate the machinery, and maximized company profits through an expanded product line. Customized training on print reading and micrometer usage delivered by Joliet Junior College supports the company's continuing commitment to quality standards associated with its products.



In assessing the value of the Business Grants for Employee Training Program, Julie Boomsma, Office Manager with FKM USA stated, "Through this program, we were able to provide the highest quality of training to our workers. The skills and abilities of our employees impact our bottom line – especially in this competitive economy. Investing in our workers enables us to grow our business and, as a result, increase our workforce."