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## Whitcraft buys Midwest CNC shop



HBJ Photo / Gregory Seay As part of its acquisition spree, Eastford manufacturer Whitcraft Group has rebranded its various locales.

By Gregory Seay

Connecticut aeroparts maker Whitcraft Group has purchased a Midwest computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine shop, deepening its precision-production capabilities and services.

Doug Folsom, CEO for closely held Whitcraft, based in Eastford, said Wednesday his company paid unspecified financial and other consideration for assets of Multax Corp., of Morton, Ill.



Doug Folsom, CEO, The Whitcraft Group

Multax's roots are in programming the first multiple axis machines ever used, Folsom said. Multi-axis machine tools are capable of precise movements at various angles, or axes, for grinding, shaping or polishing metal parts.

Multax will remain in its 140,000-square-foot Morton facility, Folsom said. With the addition of Multax, Whitcraft now employs more than 1,100 people across six states, he said.

Whitcraft's major customers include Pratt & Whitney, GE Aircraft Engines, Honeywell, Sikorsky Aircraft, Rolls Royce, Safran and Collins Aerospace, formerly United Technologies Aerospace Systems.

Earlier this year, Whitcraft acquired Form3D in Dover, NH, and two facilities in Scarborough, Maine and Tempe, Ariz., from LAI International.

On Tuesday, Whitcraft's equity-fund owner, Greenbriar Equity Group, of Rye, N.Y., and Seoulbased Hanwha Aerospace <u>announced their \$300 million purchase</u> of Cheshire aeroparts maker EDAC Technologies.