

# Franklin Bronze has productive 2019

## Future looks bright at FBPC with capital improvements, new GM

This article was submitted by the company.

Franklin Bronze Precision Components, located in Franklin, is a world leader in the manufacture of non-ferrous precision investment castings for glass container, steel, pump, valve, food, beverage, drilling, mining, oil, gas, marine and more.

The year 2019 was a productive year for FBPC. Several capital projects were completed, hiring of a new general manager, developing their employees and supporting the community. The future looks bright at FBPC.

### Capital investments

Franklin Bronze upgraded its facility and several pieces of equipment during 2019.

New chiller stations designed to cool the wax injection machines were replaced for both wax rooms which has resulted in significant productivity improvements.

A 20-ton AC unit was replaced to a shell room to control the temperature and humidity.

The facilities on Grant Street received new roofs and added insulation for increased utility cost savings. New equipment includes an efficient and reliable fork truck with an integrated safety lighting system and audible reverse alarm; a delivery van for improved fuel efficiency and protection of loads that replaces an older utility truck and a scissor lift to be used during facility maintenance for improved safety of personnel performing maintenance duties in and around the shop.



**New Chiller - Wax Room Upgrade**



**AC Unit - Shell Room Upgrade**



**John Mangoyan  
FBPC General Manager**

### New general manager

John Mangoyan joined Franklin Bronze in February of 2019 with 30 years of leadership experience in Foundry and Operations Management.

Franklin Bronze is fortunate to have Mangoyan on board and to say the last year has been a whirlwind of new and exciting developments would be an understatement.

Mangoyan has a keen focus on innovation and efficiency and plans to continue driving out costs through continuous improvement, bringing in sales and leveraging the great brand and reputation that Franklin Bronze has in the marketplace.

### Investing in People

Franklin Bronze is a firm believer in promotion from within.

During 2019, Nathan Elder transitioned into the role of HR Manager, Dustin Waters was promoted to Maintenance Supervisor, Evan Snyder became the Maintenance Team Lead and Isaac Harry was promoted to Team Lead in the Foundry.

All employees were working in different capacities at FBPC prior to their promotions and each has successfully embraced their new roles.

In March, Tyler Ripper came on board as Quality Engineer and within a few short weeks attended the Investment Cast Institute's Investment Casting Industry Certification Course.

The 10-day course is designed to give attendees a hands-on experience in every operation of the investment casting process.

"Attending ICI immensely fast tracked my understanding of investment casting and offered me the opportunity to network with a lot of great people in the industry," Ripper said.

Mangoyan makes it a priority to invest in young engineers and all FBPC employees.

"In our continual efforts to develop our employees, we sent Tyler to ICI school within the first month of his employment in order to quickly develop his knowledge of the investment cast process," Mangoyan said.

In addition, many employees attended 5S training held on-site with Franklin Bronze's own staff providing the training. 5S is designed to develop a culture that encourages employees to take ownership of their work area and make changes necessary to turn that space into a more organized and efficient work station that is sustainable. Many great projects have resulted from 5S and continue to be initiated and completed.

FBPC celebrated International Women's Day in March with a tribute post to the women of Franklin Bronze as a thank you for the integral part they play in the company's history, growth and future:



And, Labor Day included a thank you to the hard-working men and women of Franklin Bronze with several gathering in the foundry for a picture.



### Franklin Proud

Franklin Bronze, a wholly owned subsidiary of Wall Colmonoy, is proud to be part of the Franklin community. Hard work is the culture there as was established by former owner Bob Barber and now carries on through employees, most of whom are from in and around Franklin.

Local sponsorship is important and as such Franklin Bronze continues to donate annually to the YMCA and the three best days of the year, Applefest.

FBPC employees are active in the community.

Sam Lyons, Foundry Supervisor, was awarded the 2019 YMCA Volunteer Award - Social Responsibility.

Not only does Lyons volunteer his time for YMCA programs, but he is a YMCA board member as well as a member of Franklin City Council.

Kai Skinner, son of Rick Skinner, Glass Sales Manager, and also a summer intern at Franklin Bronze, was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Give Back Team comprised of 10 individuals selected from a group of 63 student-athletes nominated across the country.

Skinner is from Titusville and is a junior at Westminster College.

During October, parent company Wall Colmonoy, Alloy Product division's Sales Team held a quarterly sales meeting here in Franklin.

During the course of the training sessions conducted at The Quality Inn and onsite at Franklin Bronze Precision Components, business development reps, managers and owners dined at local establishments as well as participated in a canoe trip up the Allegheny on an exceptionally warm fall day.

The event was very well received by those who attended and FBPC was honored to show-off the amenities this region has to offer.

At Christmastime, Franklin Bronze partnered with the County of Venango to donate items for their Angel Tree for distribution to local youths in need. A campaign titled "Fill The Furnace" was created and employees came together to provide a generous donation of hats, gloves, socks and hygiene items for youths of all ages.



**Melina Moser participates in Fill the Furnace Campaign.**

### Sustainability

A significant part of Franklin Bronze's business over the years has been in the glass container industry and with the ever-growing focus on sustainability, nothing says recycle or reuse better than glass.

The castings manufactured by Franklin Bronze, specifically for the glass plants are for use in the manufacture of glass bottles and, are shipped to many locations overseas. Therefore, for reasons that cross over their business and the 100% recyclability of glass, FBPC fully supports the glass industry and promotes the usage of glass whenever possible.

For Earth Day FBPC shared information on its website and social media pages – Contributing to a More Productive, Efficient, & Cleaner World through Continuous Improvement Projects, high efficiency LED lighting and less water consumption through a Dry Blast System vs. Water Blast System, saving thousands of gallons of water a year.

Additionally, in September the company posted, "As the UN meets on climate change, a small step we can do to reduce our carbon footprint is to choose glass – a product made from nature and 100% recyclable."

### Aimed for growth

During the latter part of 2019, several independent sales reps were contracted to increase sales coverage and gain new customers. Industrial Sales Manager Kevin Weaver staffed the FBPC booth at two trade shows for the food processing industry, both held in the Chicago, Illinois, area, a new venture that will be continued into this new decade.



**FBPC at The Assembly Show**

FBPC partnered with Northwest Training Commission to once again receive funding from the GAP (Global Access Program) grant for the gain of overseas business. The GAP grant is designed to promote small to mid-sized Pennsylvania businesses overseas in order to increase export sales.

Looking to 2020, Franklin Bronze has plans to add staff in the Quality, Sales & Engineering areas and complete upwards of \$1 million in capital projects. These capital projects include several upgrades in the shell rooms such as replacement of a robot arm; addition of a supervisory SCADA system; addition of misters for humidity control.

Also planned is the replacement of a shell preheat furnace, a new shell knock-off machine to improve productivity and efficiency and the rebuild of equipment in the cleaning department.

Franklin Bronze Precision Components is aimed for growth in 2020 to remain and become an even more successful thriving, viable company that continues to partner with local companies and provide gainful employment in its vibrant hometown of Franklin.