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Ladies and Gentlemen!



Marek PODGRODZKI
Chairperson

Time goes by incredibly fast and there it is - another summer once again! Along with it comes the inconvenience of high temperatures in the production halls and all the problems maintaining the correct temperature of moulding mass and troubles with cooling furnaces at work. We are trying our best to minimize these problems and we hope for your understanding whenever we fail to fully achieve the goals.

In recent months, much has again been done in different "fronts" of our Company's activities. The activities and achievements of the particular departments have been described in the magazine by the Sales Director and Technical Director.

Preparations for the 175th anniversary of the Company are in full swing. We are finalizing the edition of the Foundry's Monograph, as well as we are preparing commemorative medals and memorabilia. We are also sending invitations to the Dearest Guests. The eminent Silesian sculptor - Bogumił Burzyński, has already delivered a model that will be used as a base to create a cast statue of Professor Buzek - Director of the Foundry in years 1913-1939. Our professionals are preparing themselves for the casting to be made of iron, as this was exactly the matter Professor loved more than any other and devoted all his career to it - that's why we've chosen it as the material for the cast.

In the picture to the right - you can have a glimpse of what the monument of the Professor looked like, while in the Artist's workshop in Katowice.



In early June, I had the opportunity to meet with the "namesake" of our professor BUZEK – i.e. with professor Jerzy BUZEK, former Prime Minister and President of the European Parliament, the honourable Patron of our 175th anniversary, to whom I reported on the preparations for the event. The Professor confirmed his presence at the celebration, what is going to be a real honour to us, and he asked to pass his cordial greetings to all METALPOL crew - what I have a real pleasure to be doing at this very moment.



In the anniversary year for the Foundry I would also like to mention and give proper honours to another eminent Director of Foundry who stayed in charge of it for the period of 24 years (however, it was actually more than 28 years, as for the four years he was a Deputy Director, being at the forefront of the Foundry for just two years less than professor Buzek) - and I am speaking of Mr. Władysław ADAMIEC.

Eminent figure, an outstanding personality who led the history of the Department towards its current track. It was during his days, as in one of the first in Poland, DISAMATIC moulding machine was launched. It is through this automaton and modern production, thanks to which the job could have been performed, the company still exists until today and the machine still accounts for 70% of cast made in METALPOL. It is thanks to the efforts of Mr. Adamiec that the housing developed in Węgierska Górka, which at that time caused a shift in the Municipality's "center of gravity" towards Węgierska Górka. It eventually resulted in transferring the headquarters right to the present location. It goes without saying that for the Cast Iron Foundry in Węgierska Górka, in years 1950 – 1978 Mr. Władysław Adamiec was a figure similar to a person who in the interwar years was Professor Jerzy Buzek.

Mr. Adamiec, today 92 years of age, has recently visited the Foundry and was vividly impressed by the changes that have taken place there. He has promised to me that he will personally participate in our celebrations, and in anticipation of a personal meeting you can read a brief history of his life in the following issue of our magazine. Moreover, his extensive memoirs will be included in the Monograph depicting our Company.

The contest for the first Professor Jerzy Buzek Scholarship has been finished. We can be proud to be able to fulfil the dreams for education and professional life for many talented, young people in our Municipality. The people, who in addition to good grades also have passion for what they want to do in life - and just as we do, they are working hard to make dreams come true.

The art contest "Cast Iron Founding - our passion" for school children in the municipality has also been finished. The competition was literally flooded with a huge number of works and the jury had a hard nut to crack when choosing the winners. Anyway, we have managed and finally chosen those who deserved the prizes.

For the lack of space in the current issue of our magazine, we will present the Scholarship Fellows and art competition Winners, as well as their works in the next issue to come.

I have an honour today to warmly invite all the workers and their families for the celebration of 175th anniversary of the Foundry. I am more than happy to announce that in addition to the official part the ceremony will hold a whole bunch of activities and attractions for the Crew, altogether with their families.

Marek Podgrodzki - Chairperson

What's new in investments June 2013

This is already the 8th issue of our magazine, each containing the information about new projects and investments carried out by our Company. And also this time, I have a great pleasure to share with you the news about a consistent implementation of our investment plans: short- and long-term measures have been taken to achieve one purpose - to improve job efficiency and products quality. We also want to provide better opportunities to meet the requirements of our customers and to facilitate and improve the work of our employees.

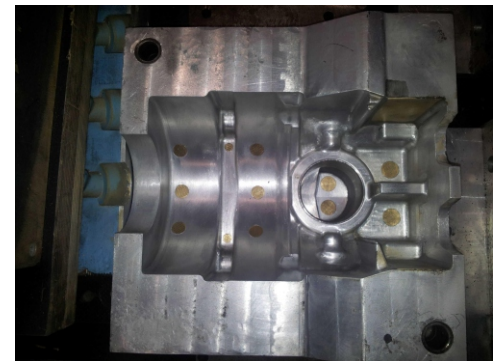
With benefits to our clients, we manufacture more long-series of products for which high stability and repeatability of dimensions after sanding is required. To achieve this target, last year we bought and launched the first automatic grinding CNC machine, KOYAMA brand. After a year of the machine utilization, the advantages of grinding in the following technology has been confirmed. Consequently, we didn't hesitate for a moment to catch the opportunity and we purchased "twin-sister" of the best of our machines. With the purchase, we hope to gain additional high-volume production opportunities.



We are manufacturing more cored castings, as well as in recent months have expanded the machinery at the Core Shop. However, the quality of the core is determined not only by coremaking machines, but by core boxes as well. It brings along some difficulties, as the intensive usage of the following machines results in overlap coating, which has a negative impact on quality of the cores. To prevent this eventuality, core boxes must undergo regular and systematic cleaning operations. The most advanced and effective method used for this purpose is the use of so-called "dry ice". The substance, in fact, consists of carbon dioxide crystals at a temperature of -80 degrees Celsius. By means of using the machine, the dry-ice crystals are pressurized and discharged onto the surfaces, to be later cleaned off by means of using a specialized nozzle. The process removes all impurities, while the crystals get transformed into gas and simply evaporate.

Within our continual attempts to improve the welfare of our Crew we bought another large batch of lockers for bathrooms, as well as closets and cabinets for the Maintenance Department, the Department of Production Planning and the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Operating and work conditions at the Fittings Assembly Department should also improve by having installed a brand new, silent compressor designed to support our modern testing station for fixtures and fittings.

We purchased well over 100 pieces of very strong and robust steel boxes used for housing castings and scrap metal, which due to their construction is going to reduce dust around the Casting House Department and Sewage Treatment Plant.



As it has been planned, we have completed the second stage of building a fence around the company, located along Młynówka channel. The investment will certainly improve the company's image and the comfort of our nearest neighbours.



Our plans for the nearest period are the following:

- repair works of the machines and equipment /in August/
- installation of noise-reducing panel walls around cooling towers
- installation of 2 compressors equipped with air-dryers
- launching several machines at the Production Department and Maintenance Department.

Jan Jurasz
Technological-Production Director

Trade latest news...

We can already see the effects coming after a busy winter-spring period, during which the Sales Department undertook various types of marketing activities such as meetings with clients, organizing assortment trainings and promotion events. The most important aim of these actions was to convince the customers that METALPOL Foundry represents a decent European level, offering good quality products at competitive price. We'd like our clients to know we deliver our products always in time. We are also capable of swift overhauls for new production lines. We are genuinely proud to be caring and responsive to the comments and concerns of Customers.

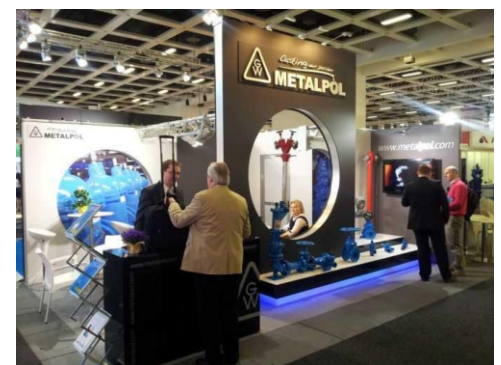
To boost the opportunity of meeting potential clients, in the recent months we participated in several trade fairs. Our attendance has profited in new contacts with European companies and others, both in the cast iron and valve castings industry. Within the recent months, we presented our products at the Hannover Messe, Wasser Berlin and Wod-Kan Bydgoszcz fairs. We also ran a prospection for potential customers at Trans Russia Moscow Exhibition, as well as at the International Railway Technology Exhibition in Munster. It has resulted in a number of visits and preliminary audits, already performed at our factory by potential customers.

In the last issue of the magazine I wrote about the important quality audit conducted at our Company by our strategic customer, a world leader in the production of construction and mining equipment, as well as diesel engines and gas turbines – i.e. CATERPILLAR Company. The rating we received during the audit has been high and the auditors have applied for a “global supplier” for METALPOL, i.e. a position of a global provider. The following opens the door for us to all the Caterpillar factories around the world, located in the United States, Australia, Belgium, Germany, Great Britain, France, Mexico, China, Italy, India, Russia, South Africa, Canada, and obviously in Poland. The final decision regarding the granting of the certificate falls into action at the Central Purchase Board located in the United States. We hope that the certificate will be granted to our Company quickly, and thanks to the excellent quality of delivered products and competitive prices we will become a supplier for Caterpillar factories on as many as five continents!

We are strengthening our position in the railway industry. For the last month, we have been conducting talks with the leading manufacturer of braking and on-board systems for rail vehicles. Negotiations are also being conducted with our potential partners from construction and agricultural machinery industry. The projects conducted in cooperation with another leading manufacturer in this sector are during implementation.

We are attracting new customers throughout different domains and directions of activity. The actions are aimed at diversifying our sales, both targeted at the customers for our products, as well as towards the increase of the number of potential clients. We hope that thanks to these actions METALPOL will be less exposed to fluctuations in the volume of sales among individual customers, as well as it will become more resistant to changes in economic conditions within various sectors of final recipients.

All the intensified actions have brought considerable effects in sales within valve industry, to which for the last few weeks we have been supplying fittings for. It's worth mention that until recently these markets have been considered as exotic, i.e. the countries in Northern and Western Africa.



Grzegorz SKRZYPEK
Dyrektor Handlowy

History of the Foundry



Władysław Adamiec – past Foundry Director for period of 24 years

Władysław Adamiec was born in Wilkowice (Biała Krakowska district), on May 24, 1921 in a family with many children. His father was a railwayman; he died tragically in 1935, leaving wife and children on their own. After graduating from the Universal School in Wilkowice, Mr Władysław continued his education at the School of Economics in Bielsko, passing his matriculation exams in 1939. After the outbreak of the Second World War, he was hiding until 1941 when he was captured in the roundup and sent to the labour camp in Łabędy. He worked there at the construction of the still existing "Ponar ŁABĘDY" plants. Afterwards, he worked for a Chemical Plant in Blachownia. After the liberation, he took up a job in "Befama" in Bielsko and he got quickly promoted. At the same time, he was involved in various activities, e.g. sports and trade unions which brought him recognition at the plant. He also joined the PPS party and his membership card bears the signature of Józef Cyrankiewicz.

He received many job offers from other plants, however he rejected all of them. He got delegated to the management development course. After completion, in 1950 he was assigned the post of the Deputy Director at the Cast Iron Foundry in Węgierska Górką. The appointed director of the Foundry at the time was Viktor Wierzbiński, highly recognised labour leader and valued rationaliser; Mr. Władysław was supposed to be playing a role of his right hand. At the time, the further existence of the Foundry was uncertain. Since the liberation of the country, the foundry was managed and administered by 5 directors, including several those with professorial titles. Anyway, they withstood the existing conditions for an average period of scarcely one year.

Young, energetic and full of ideas, W. Adamiec in a duet with W. Wierzbiński took steps to ensure the harmonious development of the plant. In 1954 he got promoted to a position of a plant manager and held it continuously for the upcoming 24 years. Over the following period, the Foundry underwent major refurbishments and entered a turbulent period of its development. In 1976, as one of the first such solutions in Poland, DISAMATIC moulding machine was installed at the Foundry. It resulted in rise in employment. The production volume multiplied.

The dynamic period of the Foundry development found extensive description in the article "I have no regrets" by Jan Blitz, published in Żywiec Calendar in 1996. Let us quote some excerpts from the article: "(...)The Foundry have become a major supplier of cast iron water supply products for water buses and main water installations in Poland. Export to many countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia developed considerably. The volume of employment multiplied seriously. The crew of engineers and economic specialists got considerably increased. Moreover, the vocational school, transformed over time into United Vocational School, secured a steady supply of qualified workers..."

Development of the plant caused the need for never before recorded housing requirements. Blocks of flats were built in large numbers - company or cooperative, as well as ones developed for individual tenants. The increase in population in Węgierska Górką prompted Żywiec county authorities to establish Węgierska Górką housing estate and resulted in establishing the Housing Estate National Council. Later on, Węgierska Górką became the seat of the municipality and the development centre for the surrounding villages, through which the main part of the crew was recruited. Housing development led to the formation of the entire infrastructure: trade network, catering and services, creating the foundations for the large industrial centre.

A newly established sports club RKS "Metal", whose president was W. Adamiec, made efforts to expand the existing sports centre, which culminated in the creation of modern sports facilities. The Club was very successful nationwide and their sportsmen represented Poland at the Olympic Games.

The Management was actively involved with the financial and in-kind aid for the local community. They brought large contribution to the construction of School of the Millennium in Węgierska Górką, as well as established a kindergarten.

A separate chapter in W. Adamiec autobiography is his social activity. It started in "BEFAMA", where he was a secretary of Works Council, a secretary and a player of the sports club. He also led the factory's PPS organization. In Żywiec region, he participated in the work of the Council of the established settlements, as well as he was active in many elected bodies.

Production and organizational achievements of the Foundry inspired the establishment of Żywiec county to nominate him as the candidate for a deputy of Myślenice, Sucha, Wadowice and Żywiec constituency in 1961 elections. On behalf of the PZPR Party, in the years 1961-1969 he was a deputy for the third and fourth term of Polish Sejm.

He was very active as an MP. Representing a vast residential area, he tried to reach up all citizens. As he speaks himself, during one term of his office he used to hold nearly 400 meetings. As a member of the Parliamentary Committee on Maritime Navigation and Water Economy, he primarily sought to resolve the most pressing problems of flooding for the mountain area, as well as to solve difficulties with periodic mainland excess waters. He also fought for preservation of the purity of mountain rivers.

His parliamentary questions and personal interviews with representatives of the highest authorities paved the way to strategic moves, such as taking an important government decision for the construction of sewage treatment plants in all factories discharging their sewage into the river Sola. He contributed to the construction of water reservoirs in Tresna and Czaniec. He also successfully intervened with the Prime Minister J. Cyrankiewicz on decent compensations for the land owners expropriated due to the construction of a dam in Tresna.

Numerous honours and medals he received serve as the evidence of his personal involvement. W. Adamiec is in possession of dozens of medals and state, departmental and regional awards. He is a holder of Order of Polonia Restituta, as well as he merit badges for the provinces of Kraków, Katowice and Bielsko.

Based on the article "Życiorys na Żywiecczyźnie pisane" by Anthony Urbaniec, published in the fortnightly socio-cultural magazine "Nad Sołą i Koszarawą", no. 19 (33) - 1-X-2012

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