



Oppio prepares the EDM for the next job.

► years in terms of power supplies, controllers and computers,” says Oppio. He adds that they are much faster and the mechanicals have changed as well.

“With the Hitachi, we now own the biggest EDM in the Windsor area. We’re now getting into four-axis machining. There’s a demand for it.”

About 98% of the parts Classic makes are for the automotive industry, about 90% of which are dies. It is a Tier Two supplier, selling to Tier One stamping companies—85% of them Canadian, mostly in the Windsor area.

His father, Ivo, started the company in 1976 in a little shack attached to Maidstone Machine Repairs, equipped with only a Bridgeport, a lathe and a bench. “He then moved to a garage and later to his own building. He kept buying machines and needed a 20,000-ft² addition.” The constantly growing company built more additions before finally moving to its current modern building in the Windsor suburb of Oldcastle.

Adriano says Classic has “one of the best organized, well-structured and cleanest tool-and-die shops in Windsor.” He attributes much of Classic’s success to his father’s devotion to quality “that goes beyond perfectionism.” Ivo’s desire to be the best is what drives Classic, he says.

Classic’s future looks promising but challenging. “With the oncoming accuracies, it’s going to be a tough business. You’ll have to be good to survive. I believe that the more accurate and well-organized you can be, the better your parts will come out.” **CM**

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