



GENERAL DYNAMICS

BATH IRON WORKS AND PURITAN MEDICAL PRODUCTS

General Dynamics Bath Iron Works' (BIW) reputation for building US Navy ships is pretty well understood. Beyond that simple description, we are engineers and designers who are capable of designing a product from scratch or reverse engineering a product, first to understand how it works, and then to engineer improvements before rebuilding the product. We are also expert planners, capable of planning projects that span years in the making, but also delivering a plan with sufficient detail to inform us what we must accomplish on a daily basis to achieve that larger goal.

After the work is designed, engineered and planned, BIW turns to its supply chain experts, who will not just employ their skills and expertise in the field, but will rely upon relationships built over decades with vendors across Maine and around the country. Our dedicated buyers have the ability to locate and contract for the purchase of raw materials, stock supplies or specialized equipment, even if we have to convince the vendor to restart production of a previously manufactured product it has not made in years. What we buy is rarely plucked from the shelves, sometimes we have to describe it in a way that requires drawings and specifications so that a machine shop elsewhere in Maine can fulfill exacting standards, to 1/1000th of an inch, and machine a part capable of incorporation into equipment run by software that needs to converse with the operating software of a different piece of equipment.

Once the job is engineered, the parts designed, the material purchased, the work planned, it's time for the mechanics to display their special skills. Among them are the welders, pipefitters and electricians with the ability to process raw metal, to machine a part, to bend pipe, to strike an arc and to energize a component or subsystem of a larger system.

BIW is routinely called upon to integrate smaller systems, ranging from a ship's galley to vertical launch systems for tomahawk missiles, into a complex final product in which all these systems come together, ready to be activated, tested and delivered to our customer.

That is what we do every day for the United States Navy and what we have done for over 100 years. This is what we are doing for Puritan Medical Products of Guilford Maine.

The experience and ingenuity possessed by the men and women of BIW are the reason that the United States Air Force directed Puritan to come to BIW when it needed to swiftly construct and deliver 30 additional industrial manufacturing machines.

BIW is pleased to support Puritan Medical Products in its efforts to rapidly ramp up production of medical swabs under the authority of the Defense Production Act in order to meet demand in combating the COVID-19 pandemic. The nasal swabs are a key part of expanding COVID-19 testing capabilities nationwide. BIW will support Puritan by manufacturing specialized machines that are a critical component of Puritan's ability to increase its swab production capacity. BIW will manufacture the industrial machines using its highly capable machine shop, outfit fabrication facilities, and experienced workforce, located in Bath, Maine and Brunswick, Maine to produce the machines using Puritan's design. Due to the speed with which this job must be completed, BIW has turned to more than 10 other Maine businesses to assist in this effort, either to provide materials or to machine specialized parts. The machines are made up of a multitude of precise parts and much like each member of the Puritan/BIW team, we need every single one of them.