

Building on 70 Years of Excellence

Precision Associates Inc.

By: Rachel Hillukka

Precision Associates, Inc. (PAI) is a third-generation, family-owned business founded in Minneapolis in 1955 by Arnold Kadue, an ambitious engineer who spent 20 years at General Mills before beginning his “second act” as an entrepreneur. Not every early venture succeeded, but partnering with an engineer skilled in rubber molding set the stage for both the family and PAI’s long-term success.

Over the past 70 years, PAI has grown into a leading global manufacturer of precision sealing solutions and other custom rubber products. One product, the O-ring, has been an important part of PAI’s story since the beginning. While materials and processes have advanced, the O-ring has remained a steady, reliable part of PAI’s business and continues to be used in countless industries throughout Minnesota and across the world.



Manufactured O-ring

Today, PAI is proud of both its heritage and its modern capabilities. Brad Kadue, grandson of Arnold Kadue and current President, explains:

“We’re immensely proud of our precision sealing solutions. Not only do we produce high-quality products, but we also build our own tooling in-house, conduct chemical analysis and compound formulation, and importantly, all of our manufacturing is done here in the USA. Being a true in-house solution makes us an attractive partner.”



Pictured Brad Kadue,
President of PAI

Brad continues to share that what consistently set PAI apart over the years was its ease of doing business and the commitment to supporting projects of all sizes. The company has always had the capability to handle large, complex orders for some of the world’s most recognizable companies while also excelling in smaller, customized projects that many competitors often overlook. Often those smaller jobs have led to larger opportunities, as customers experienced the value of PAI’s quality, expertise, and responsiveness. As PAI grew, so did its reputation. For decades, PAI built strong long-term partnerships and continued to grow by delivering value to customers of

every size, from Fortune 500 companies to those who first started with smaller projects that later expanded into larger orders. With their expertise, PAI helped customers understand sealing, tooling, and engineering requirements. Today PAI is still relied on to assist with the exact size, hardness, and compound needed for the long-term performance of catalog and custom seals in the medical, food, fluid, defense, controls, chemical, and aerospace industries, among many others. Looking ahead, PAI continues to invest in its people, capabilities, and partnerships. As a long-term employer of choice within the Twin Cities, the company takes pride in offering business stability, quality jobs, and a commitment to remaining rooted in Minnesota for generations to come.

At its core, PAI remains dedicated to providing custom sealing solutions while building lasting relationships across every size and stage of a customer's business. Reflecting on the company's legacy, Brad notes "We joined the MPMA to connect more closely with Minnesota



Side by side comparison of an automated Inspection used now (top) vs manual inspection (bottom)

manufacturers, build new relationships, share our sealing expertise, and continue to learn. After 70 years as a proud American manufacturer, we look forward to continuing our partnership with the MPMA to help us thrive for another seven decades." 



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