

Bead Industries 100 Years of Manufacturing Innovation

Decades of Progress and Success



1900

Waldo Calvin Bryant forms Bryant Electric in 1886, designs and patents the first enclosed electrical switch.



1914

The Bead Chain Mfg. Co. is formed in 1914 to make pulls for electric lights. Calvin's son, Gerald Bryant, becomes Bead's first president.



1920

Using its unique swaging process, Bead introduces tubular contact pins for radio vacuum tubes and launches its electronics business.



1930

Bead Chain® is specified for US Military ID tags. Company adds a fourth floor to its Bridgeport factory.



1940

During WWII, over 22 million Bead Chain® "dog tag" chains are produced for US and Canadian armed forces.



1950

300 employees on three shifts produce millions of feet of Bead Chain®. Company acquires Bridgeport Silverware Co. in 1956 and successfully markets its popular "Diamond Jig" fishing lure.



1956



1960

Bead's Electronics Division manufactures millions of contact pins for the fluorescent lighting industry.



1970

Bead acquires McGuire Manufacturing Co. in 1972 and begins marketing high quality, commercial plumbing fixture trim. Company forms a joint venture with Sturge & Co. in the UK, to supply Bead Chain® to European markets.



1980

Company changes its name to Bead Industries in 1987 to better reflect its many diverse businesses.

1987

Bead Industries develops Tandem-Pins® for the printed circuit board industry.



1990

2000

Establishes a partnership with Samwon Petra in South Korea to better serve international Bead Chain® markets.



2010

Spanning five generations and 100 years, Bead continues to manufacture, develop and distribute quality products around the world.



Bead INDUSTRIES
TIME-TESTED. CUSTOMER-TRUSTED.



Our modern facility in Milford, CT, a family business for five generations.

*Come celebrate our anniversary
Commemorating 100 years in business*

Open House and Factory Tours
Thursday, May 8th, 3-6:00 pm

For more information and to RSVP: centennial@beadindustries.com
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