



## POWERS UP!

### In This Issue

There are a lot of new things happening at Curtis:



We have a new molding machine at Curtis de

Mexico that will make higher-quality parts in much less time.

We have a new rep organization, MINK Associates of Kansas City, covering much of the Midwest.

Underwriters Laboratories has introduced new ITE design standard, 62368-1, due for adoption in late 2020.

Chris DeBraul, Curtis Engineering Manager, and his band of brothers (literally), who have been entertaining Rock 'n' Roll fans for decades, shares an interview with us.

And there's the usual smattering of quotes and gags.

All of us at Curtis/Tri-Mag wish you tidings of comfort and joy this Holiday Season.

*Steven*

## NEWS FROM NOGALES

### New Molding Machine

Curtis de Mexico is renewing its fleet of molding machines and, last November, ordered a new Nissei horizontal injection molding machine.

It replaces an older machine and will allow faster run times with higher quality output.

"We needed the new machine to produce housings for a project requiring tight tolerances and Class A cosmetic requirements," says Mario Sanchez, VP of Operations. "It's a new customer, and could mean substantial business over the next four to five years."

The Nissei machine provides well-balanced performance, enabling it to do a wide variety of molding, from precision/thin-wall to thick-wall products.



**Nissei FNX Series horizontal injection molding machine**

[Continued on Page 2 >](#)

## New Underwriters Laboratories' Standards for ITE Equipment

If you design or use ITE safety-approved power supplies, mark December 2020 on your calendar.

UL 62368-1 is a new standard that will replace the current UL 60950-1 for ITE equipment, scheduled for adoption at the end of 2020.

Although the European Union has had the IEC version of this standard in place since 2014, UL has recently adopted it and will make the 60950 standard obsolete for new approvals in the coming years.

Crafted specifically for audio/video, information and communication

[Continued on Page 2 >](#)

## MINK Associates Joins Curtis' Team of Reps

Curtis/Tri-Mag welcome MINK Associates to their family of Manufacturers Representatives selling our line of products.

The firm derived its name from the initial territories served: Missouri; Iowa; Nebraska; and Kansas. In addition, they currently cover Arkansas, Oklahoma, North and South Dakota, Colorado, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Headquartered in Overland Park, Kansas, the company also has offices in Cedar Rapids, St. Louis, and Wichita.




---

## News From Nogales

**Continued from Page 1 >**

It allows for production of higher-precision and higher-quality molded products with exceptional stability in injection repeatability and controllability.

The customer was profiled in Curtis Connection, Vol. 18, Number 2.

Continued success will likely lead to additional projects and opportunities from this telecom industry customer. Curtis has already bid on several large “reshoring” or “localization” projects with them. Many of the opportunities are a result of the import tariffs on Chinese manufactured goods and components.

“Should we be awarded the additional projects, we’ll need more molding machines to support these programs,” says Sanchez.

The new machine was delivered earlier this month and is expected to be in operation by early January, 2019. 

## Dodgers vs. Brewers in NL Pennant Race

Curtis President, Steven Powers, made a bet with Gary Smith of G.L. Smith & Associates:

If the Dodgers beat the Brewers for the National League Pennant, Steven would wear a Dodgers jersey and post it on LinkedIn. Likewise, if the Brewers won, Gary would wear a Brewers uniform.



Alas, the Dodgers won. Steven, reluctantly, donned Gary’s Fantasy Baseball Camp jersey for his LinkedIn photo. 

---

## New Underwriters Laboratories' Standards for ITE Equipment

**Continued from Page 1 >**

technology equipment, 62368-1 supports the convergence of technologies and newer state-of-the-art tech. It takes a proactive risk-based approach by identifying hazards and testing the effectiveness of the safeguards instead of a reactive incident-based perspective after something has gone wrong.

### Early Compliance Benefits

The earlier a manufacturer can begin to focus on this upcoming, comprehensive and compulsory change, the more their business can benefit. Early transition can:

- Provide increased flexibility in design and construction
- Reduce your stress and lower your costs
- Avoid compliance bottlenecks

The current deadline of June 20, 2019 has been extended to December of 2020, but Curtis/Tri-Mag has begun the transition and already has some 62368-1 approved power supplies in its product offering. 

# Band of Brothers

Introducing! The DeBaal Brothers.

Jason, guitar and vocals, is the oldest. He's a Sales Manager for a thermoplastics company.

Cory, guitar and vocals, is a Mechanical Engineer for a tool manufacturer.

Little brother, Chris, keyboards and vocals, works at Curtis as an Engineering Manager.

Together, the three brothers bring their brand of acoustic rock to bars, festivals, private and corporate events, Wisconsin State Fair, and Summerfest. They've shared the stage with Loverboy, Survivor, Phil Vasser, Taylor Dayne, Blackhawk and more.

Curtis Connection interviewed Chris DeBaal recently. Following are excerpts:

CC: How did you get started?

DeBaal: Our Grandfather played in a Croatian band. Good vocals, harmonies. He taught Jason how to play guitar. Cory picked it up, too. I learned keyboard. We started singing together, performed at our high school talent show, local bars, some private parties. We all moved to Milwaukee for college, and hooked up with a booking agent who started us out playing bars and festivals in the area. Twenty plus years later, we're still at it.

CC: How often do you get together to practice?

DeBaal: We've been together so long, and we're



**The DeBaal brothers, Cory, Chris, and Jason**

working every other weekend, or more. So each performance is a practice. Maybe once every few months, we get together to learn new songs. Bands like ours where the members also have normal day jobs are known as weekend warriors.

CC: What was your favorite gig?

DeBaal: One of the highlights for us, as a band, was a performance at the Rio in Las Vegas. Great memory. But you know what they say about Vegas.

CC: What's next?

DeBaal: We're playing at Bar 360 inside of Milwaukee's Potawatomi Casino December 22nd. Details are on our website [3Dbrothers.com](http://3Dbrothers.com). We also have a Facebook page.



## Tweets

I knew I was going bald when I realized it took longer and longer to wash my face.

The problem with teaching a man to fish is that, eventually, someone will microwave that fish in the office break room.

My New Year's resolution is to be more assertive, if that's OK with you guys.

## Quote/Unquote

“Tell every child you meet: ‘You have greatness inside you, and your job is to figure out what that is, dig it out, and give it to the world.’”

**- Henry Winkler**

