



Company History Timeline

- 1955** – Rudi Wetzel forms Wetzel Tool Corporation, an industrial machine tool accessory distributor, selling Biax Scrapers, cutting tools and related products. With a secretary and two salesmen based in East Hartford, Connecticut, Wetzel Tool Corporation distributes its products throughout New England.
- 1958** – With the birth of his first grandson, David L. Pratt, Jr., Rudi Wetzel establishes DAPRA Corporation. (Hence the name DAPRA). Wetzel Tool Corporation now becomes the Northeast distributor for DAPRA, selling its own high-quality cutting tools and workholding equipment nationally.
- 1983** – Wetzel Tool Corporation adds dot peen marking equipment to its product line and becomes a division of DAPRA Corporation.
- 1984** – Upon the death of Rudi Wetzel, his daughter, Marie-Louise Pratt, assumes ownership of both Wetzel Tool and DAPRA Corporation.
- 1996** – Wetzel Tool is officially renamed DAPRA Marking Systems.
- 2005** – DAPRA celebrates its 50th anniversary as a leading supplier of superior quality cutting tools, part-marking solutions, and workholding and rotary positioning products. DAPRA's products are sold through distribution in North America with sales and applications support personnel located throughout the United States. Both domestic and international support are provided by DAPRA's home office in Bloomfield, Connecticut.

The DAPRA Division specializes in providing high-velocity, high-performance cutting tools, offering maximum value in difficult metalworking applications. Continuing to improve and expand its product line to meet more demanding performance requirements, DAPRA also imports workholding and positioning equipment from Europe. Examples include Servopress Indexing Tables, HydraVise Machine Vises, Allmatic Precision Vises, Tombstone Fixtures and Biax Power Scrapers.

The DAPRA Marking Systems division sells a full range of programmable Dot Peen (dot matrix) Marking Machines for permanent, direct part marking. Developed for the aerospace industry, these systems can mark alpha-numeric text, symbols, and logos on almost any material from plastic to hardened steels. These units are offered as standard, off-the-shelf machines, or can be provided as custom-engineered, turnkey systems. DAPRA Marking Systems also offers self-contained Diode-pump Laser Marking Systems.