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VISUAL SHOP AND BLUESTREAK JOIN FORCES WITH STEELHEAD TECHNOLOGIES

Together, the three industry leaders bring decades of heat treating expertise to one platform built for margin and growth.

Calumet, MI – Steelhead Technologies announced today the acquisitions of Visual Shop and Bluestreak, two longstanding providers of job shop management and QMS software. Customers of all three companies now have access to next-generation technology to help them get ahead: an all-in-one system built on a digital production floor, with automation and AI built in to power margin and growth.

For years, Steelhead, Visual Shop, and Bluestreak have earned the trust of heat treating and metal finishing job shops across North America by delivering systems designed with the specific complexities job shops face in mind. Now these systems are joining forces; customers are getting the best of each: the digital production floor, the industry knowledge, and the people who understand their business.

"Heat treating job shops have been under decades of competitive pressure from offshoring, workforce challenges, and volatility in costs. With demographic changes and AI completely changing the operational landscape, the challenges remain as steep as ever. At the same time, top government officials and contractors are urgently bringing back work by reshoring and scaling production. Job shops must leverage technology to rapidly increase capacity and capability without adding head count to solve every challenge."

— Jeff Halonen, CEO/Co-Founder, Steelhead Technologies

Continued Investment in Heat Treating

Steelhead is accelerating its investment in heat treating to position heat treating job shops for the next generation of manufacturing, including investing in FedRAMP to meet the security and documentation standards CMMC compliance requires, and dedicating engineering, support, and product resources to fine-tune heat treating workflows such as furnace calibrations, operator certifications, sample testing, and sensor integrations. Customers will benefit from direct access to the people who know heat treating inside and out, drawing on the long-standing experience at Visual Shop and Bluestreak.



**THERMTECH IS EXCITED TO
ANNOUNCE OUR PARTNERSHIP
WITH STEELHEAD AS WE
IMPLEMENT THEIR AI-POWERED
HEAT TREATING PLATFORM**

**MARY SPRINGER
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

"Visual Shop customers have always loved our vast array of features and our friendly and responsive support team that knows their business. To stay competitive in the long term, we would need to build a new product on a modern platform. Steelhead has a great product and shares our philosophy of providing outstanding customer service. As one company with Steelhead and Bluestreak, it's a big win for customers because we can work together to bring the absolute best software experience to the heat treating and metal finishing industries."

— Kevin Pluedeman, President of Cornerstone Systems (Visual Shop)

"For over 20 years, Bluestreak has powered heat treating and metal finishing job shops with software built to help them scale without compromising on quality. Looking ahead, we believe partnering with Steelhead positions us to deliver on that promise at an entirely new scale. By joining forces with Steelhead, we are bringing the institutional knowledge and specialized features of Bluestreak together with Steelhead's modern infrastructure. Our focus remains entirely on supporting customers seamlessly today while building the ultimate, next-generation platform for the next 20 years."

— Todd Wenzel, President and Founder of Bluestreak

"ThermTech is excited to announce our partnership with Steelhead as we implement their AI-powered heat treating platform. For decades, ThermTech has grown by investing in the things that matter most to our customers: our people, our equipment, our processes, and the quality systems that stand behind every part we treat. Over the last 23 years, we've leveraged and co-developed the Bluestreak QMS, and that investment in capability has been central to how we serve our customers. Moving to Steelhead is the next chapter of that same philosophy, a platform that unites MES, QMS, ERP, financials, and customer service in a single system. Our engineering team will work closely with Steelhead to shape highly specialized heat treating capabilities, so we can continue raising the bar on quality, responsiveness, and the service our customers count on."

— Mary Springer, Executive Vice President of ThermTech



Customer Perspective

At Exactatherm, a heat treater in Mississauga, ON, taking their shop floor digital has simplified training, tightened quality control, and enabled faster turnaround times.

"With Steelhead, if we need a job pulled for review in a Nadcap audit, we can look it up and have all the data right there. We don't have to train someone with a background in metallurgy or heat treat to enter a job anymore, anyone can do it. That efficiency shows up everywhere: our lead times used to run a couple of weeks, now we're down to 10 days, and parts we used to store for 10-12 days now move through in 5-7."

— Vraj Shah, Quality Manager, Exactatherm



STEELHEAD
technologies



Cornerstone Systems, Inc.
Visual Shop



Steelhead is the technology partner for heat treaters, metal finishers, and fabricators, providing an AI-powered ERP built to help job shops get ahead by powering margin and growth. Built with the production floor in mind, its ease of use enables real-time tracking of every process, giving management teams the data they need to make better decisions, faster. Learn more at gosteelhead.com.