

Company

20 years of ARKU Inc. in the US Celebrating 60+ years of leveler sales and service in North America.

Cincinnati, OH - A passion for precision has been at the heart of the ARKU story since its founding in Germany during 1928 and its opening of a location on U.S. soil in 2004. Here is a snapshot of how this passion has expressed itself in excellence and innovation over nearly a century of dedicated work.

With the support of our partners, ARKU has provided machines and continuous service in North America for the last 60+ years. As the customer base and demand for steady service grew, ARKU established its first US office in Michigan in 2004 under the name ARKU Coil Systems Inc., led by Sales Director

tal parts. ARKU began offering leveling as a contract service. In response to the expanded services and machines such as the FlatMaster® hydraulic precision levelers and deburring machines being offered in the U.S., ARKU Coil Systems Inc. changed its name to ARKU Inc. in 2017. The growing organization moved



In 1967, ARKU built its first precision leveler, signaling the inception of the journey into machine building. Three years later, in 1970, the company broadened its portfolio to encompass press feeding lines. Even in the early stages, half of these levelers and coil lines were delivered to customers in the USA. The Baden-Baden-based machine manufacturer supplied numerous press feeding lines with Bruderer stamping presses. Later during the 1980s, the company began working closely with Feintool, an expert in fineblanking, and provided larger coil lines up to 0.63" thick material for the fineblanking industry. ARKU has continuously expanded its customer base in North America, driven by its partners like Feintool and Dreistern, a roll forming specialist.

The 20,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility in Cincinnati, OH is filled with the latest in leveling and deburring technology.

Franck Hirschmann. Initially, it served as a sales and service office for leveling and coil line customers.

Within 3 years, the company moved to the Cincinnati area to be close to its customers and partners, due to growing demand in levelers for sheet me-

into a new location in Cincinnati in 2020. This facility encompasses office space with collaborative workstations and a 20,000 sqft. production space. The production floor is equipped with a wide spectrum of precision levelers that can handle metal of 0.005" to 1.6" in thickness and up to 80" wide. These

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Commemorating 20 Years of Excellence

This year marks the 20th anniversary of ARKU Inc.'s first physical location in the US. Even though we have sold machines and services to US customers for the last 60+ years, this is a big milestone. Since 2004, we have been providing our customers with high-quality products and services, ranging from leveling and deburring machines to entire coil lines and even contract leveling out of our US location. Two of the highlights were the launch of the FlatMaster® and Edge-Breaker® series of machines. We are proud of our achievements and grateful for the trust and loyalty of our customers and partners.

As we look ahead to the next 20 years, we are confident that ARKU will continue to grow and thrive in the metal fabrication industry. We are committed to delivering excellence, innovation, and reliability to our customers. Together, we will shape the future of metal processing with cutting-edge technology and unparalleled expertise. Here's to many more years of success and collaboration!

Nicholas Miller
President of ARKU Inc.

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precision levelers are used to perform contract leveling for parts, sheets, and plates. The full line up of deburring machines is also available. Both levelers and deburring machines are available for customer demonstrations and test parts.

Currently, ARKU Inc. employs over 30 people, including a dedicated team of field service technicians. The company also provides a 24/7 service hotline for all customers in North America and



The EdgeBreaker® 6000 is one of the newest machines in the deburring lineup and was first introduced in 2022.

ARKU Inc. has a dedicated team of service technicians including 24/7 service support for our customers in North America.

maintains a local inventory of essential spare and wear parts for machines. Our passion for precision drives us every day. We take pride in our rapid response

times and our ability to minimize client downtime. ARKU's commitment to innovation ensures that we consistently deliver cutting-edge solutions.

Deburring

Deburring achieves hygiene standards for packaging machines

Orics Industries automates deburring, edge rounding and graining for in-house manufacturing.

Farmingdale, NY – Sheet metal with an outstanding finish wins over customers and improves work safety. For Orics Industries, this was reason enough to seek an automated deburring, edge rounding & surface finishing solution. The manufacturer of high-quality filling and sealing machines found its match in Cincinnati.

Meat, poultry, fruit, pharmaceuticals, you name it – Orics Industries makes sure these products will be packaged safely. Since 1990 the family-owned business develops versatile filling and sealing machines for trays, cups, and tubs. Laser cut stainless-steel frames are the backbone of any of their

systems, requiring precision fabrication equipment.

Support from Ohio

"We had it all in place from an early sta-

ge, except for deburring, edge rounding & surface finishing," says Omri Cohen, the company's Vice President. For years, he and his team relied on stroke sanders, angle grinders, and air files. "Edges remained sharp, and the work

apply a desired surface finish. After a few tests, he struck a deal with ARKU for an EdgeBreaker® 6000 and couldn't be any happier. "The current parts and our previous manual results are worlds apart. We now process up to 100,000



A strong partnership (from left to right): Denis Weinfurter (N.A. Marketing Manager for ARKU Inc.), Omri Cohen (Manufacturing Engineer for Orics Industries), Ori Cohen (President of Orics Industries) and Jeffrey Cepeda (Machine Operator for Orics Industries).

One of the many machines Orics Industries engineers and manufacturers. This particular machine is called the R-50 and automatically denests, fills and seals cups for various foods.

was tedious," he recalls. "We needed a time-saving solution that would boost part quality."

When he saw an ARKU EdgeBreaker® in action at an outside laser job shop, Omri was eager to give the company a try. He became even more enthusiastic once he found out that ARKU can also

pounds of sheet metal per year, achieving consistent quality for deburred, edge rounded & grained parts. Not to mention increased safety, as customers don't need to worry about getting cut or having bacteria growth within their packaging equipment."

www.orics.com



Stay caught up – ARKU Inc. on social media

Are you passionate about staying ahead in metalworking? Join ARKU Inc.'s social media channels on Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook! Be the first to know about the newest trends, groundbreaking news, and cutting-edge machine developments. Dive deep into insightful content and engage with our community in a world revolving all around leveling, deburring, coil lines and material handling solutions. Follow us today!



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New plant: more space & shorter delivery times

One year anniversary of the new production line in Bühl, Germany.

A year ago, ARKU opened a new plant in Bühl. Here, the machine manufacturer has considerably more space at its disposal. "16,000 square feet of space for production and storage make it possible to implement a lean operation," explains Plant Manager Ralph Seiler.

In other words, this means clearly structured processes. For example, the material flow from unloading to storage and production, is now a much quicker and efficient solution. This in turn enables ARKU to reliably manufacture deburring machines and smaller precision levelers through serial production.



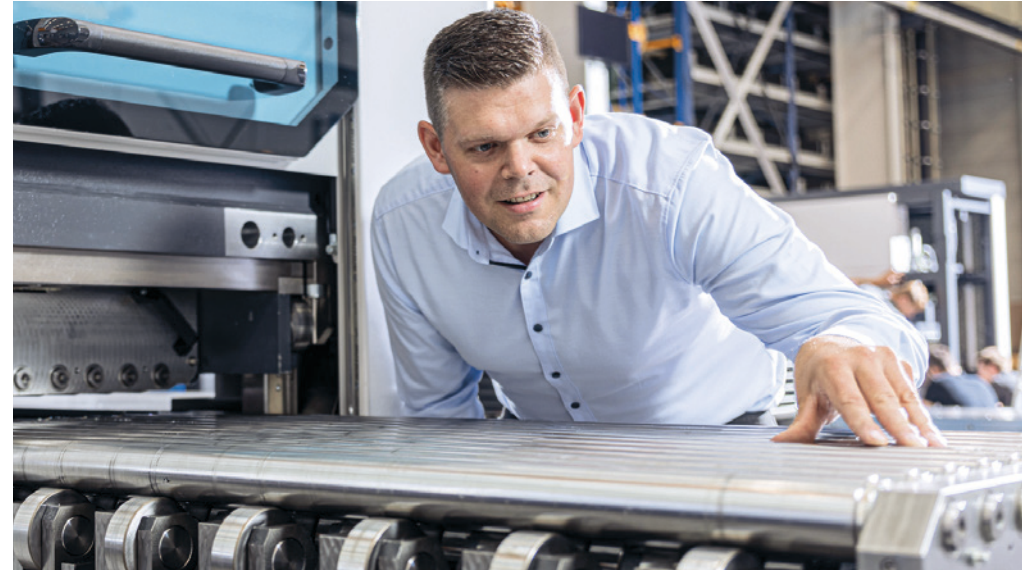
View into the production hall, where deburring machines and precision levelers are being assembled.

"We have achieved a ton together in just one year. From setting up and equipping the new facility to the continuous improvement of the assembly line," recalls Foreman and Industrial Mechanic Dominik Benz.

"It's exciting to see how our plant is developing. I think this is mainly due to the fact that employees are involved in this process," emphasizes Joachim Bittmann from work preparation and order processing. His colleague and Industrial Mechanic Loïc Schreiner adds: "I like the fact that there are many opportunities to optimize the process and

that everyone works well together".

The new plant created added value for the company. The experience gained there has also led to process optimi-



Plant Manager Ralph Seiler checks one of the new precision levelers after production completion. After a year in Bühl, he draws a positive interim conclusion.

zations for the Baden-Baden location. At the same time, customers benefit from delivery times that have been cut in half, says Plant Manager Ralph Seiler. Larger storage areas for spare and wear parts guarantee dispatch within 24 hours.

Especially for the subsidiary ARKU Inc., located in Cincinnati, the delivery times for machines have been cut in half. This is highly valuable to customers in North America, as most processing needs

require immediate solutions. In other words, offering customers a quick turnaround from inquiry to final delivery. This efficiency not only enhances customer satisfaction but also strengthens ARKU Inc.'s competitive edge in the market.

Coil lines

Why feed equipment matters for servo presses

When it comes to feeding presses, accuracy and speed is key.

All elements in a servo press line must cater towards the press and enable it to perform at its fullest potential, including

ses. Consequently, they require dynamic feeds with high acceleration and deceleration to achieve the required strokes

the feeder has enough time to achieve the required feed lengths. "Unlike conventional mechanical presses, where

signals must occur at precise times." Franck Hirschmann, Head of Coil Line Sales for ARKU added.



Perfectly synchronized: the combination of the press and coil feed speed is crucial for accurate stamping results without any errors.

the coil feeding portion. Servo presses combine the differing speeds and cycles of mechanical and hydraulic pres-

per minute. To meet this challenge, the servo press and feeder must exchange signals at precise times to ensure that

timing synchronizes via a mechanical crankshaft, the servo press and feed must exchange signals, and these si-

Servo technology enables presses to handle more high-tensile materials, which pose a huge challenge for the in-line leveler. Therefore, it is crucial for metal stampers to use the correctly sized equipment for coil feeding to achieve the necessary flatness. For instance, the feeding of high-tensile-strength material requires a leveler with a powerful drivetrain to provide the needed torque. Usually, this type of leveler should have between 9 - 21 leveling rollers.

ARKU has developed equipment ideally suited to feed servo presses. All feeders can communicate with a wide array of press manufacturers. All with one goal in mind, to make feeding as automatic as possible to gain the maximum efficiency from the servo press.

www.arku.com/products

Contract leveling saves time and money

ARKU Inc. offers contract leveling services tailored for metal service centers, metal distributors and fabricators. Opting for our expertise means achieving precise flatness for parts, sheets, and plates without the need for a machinery investment. Contact Mary Simpson (Leveling Center Sales) directly via email mary.simpson@arku.com or her cell phone (513) 316-0296. Scan the QR code to learn more about our leveling services today!



Virtual machine demonstrations - without the need for traveling

ARKU Inc. offers virtual machine demonstrations, allowing you to experience the quality of our machines firsthand without the need to travel. You can see the performance using either your own sample parts or those provided by ARKU, tailored to your specific application. This personalized approach ensures you get a comprehensive understanding of how our machines can meet your needs. Contact us today to get started!



Leveling

Down the rabbit hole

Louis Industries optimizes sheet metal quality and lead times with the ARKU FlatMaster® 55.

Paynesville, MN – In just over seven decades, Louis Industries has evolved from a small blacksmith business to a comprehensive steel processing job shop. While founder Alfred Louis used to work with a hammer and anvil, his grandson Lance, the company’s CEO, relies on automated processes. These automated processes include laser cutting, forming, welding and much much more. All in order to deliver better products with shorter lead times.

before the FABTECH in the fall of 2023. At the trade show, they came across ARKU’s booth, where they even brought their own sheet metal parts to conduct leveling tests with the FlatMaster® 55 directly on the show floor. To everyone’s satisfaction, all the test parts met the required flatness specification. The team from Louis Industries was even able to get all their remaining questions about the machine directly answered on-site.



Satisfied and ready to tackle more demanding jobs (from left to right): Brandon Wester (Machine Operator for Louis Industries), Eric Miller (Sales Engineer for ARKU Inc.) and Lance Louis (CEO of Louis Industries).



Thanks to the ARKU FlatMaster® 55, perforated laser cut parts turn flat and stress relieved in seconds.

“Maintaining our strong foothold means addressing customer requirements as precisely as possible,” he states. This includes flat parts and sheets, as flatness is key to improving downstream operations like bending and welding. “Any deviations from flatness standards can lead to unnecessary downtime and long time-to-market, which neither we nor our customers can afford.”

Never one to give up easily, Lance and his team began searching for an automated solution. Fortunately, it wasn’t long

The day spent at the FABTECH will remain a turning point for Lance: “It was clear to us then that we would flatten our parts with the ARKU FlatMaster® 55.” Installation took place the same year. Louis Industries currently flattens up to 1,500 sheets & parts per week. “We now have the technology to create good sheets and parts right from the start – and to establish ourselves as the premier steel fabricator in the upper Midwest.”

www.louisind.com

ARKU employees take action

Supporting our local community is both a priority and a pleasure for ARKU employees. On April 23, 2024, a team of seven ARKU employees met with Owen Hunter-Linville from the Cardinal Land Conservancy, Inc. This non-profit organization is based in Milford, Ohio. It is dedicated to preserving and restoring the natural habitats, waterways, agricultural

Our team went to the Westmark Woods nature preserve in Hamilton County to clean up Mill Creek, which runs through the preserve. During the course of the day, the ARKU team collected and disposed of ten large trash bags full of litter, plus a bulky piece of a children’s playhouse that was washed down the creek. It was very rewarding to help restore



The ARKU team felt very accomplished after removing 10 large trash bags full of litter as well as a large piece of a children’s playhouse that were all washed down the creek.

lands, and open spaces in Southwest Ohio. They achieve this by working with individuals, families, and local companies.

the natural beauty of this soon to be opened park! We look forward to taking team outings to this new park close by.

The thrill of being a field service engineer

Manufacturing is part of Palmer Erb’s DNA. He grew up around manufacturing and earned his B.S. in Manufacturing Technology Management from Ohio Northern University. He finds pleasure in the diverse range of industries we engage with, while always discovering something interesting and fascinating to explore and understand.

As a Field Service Technician, Palmer affirms, “It has been a great experience to travel to new places. Troubleshooting and repairing various machines brings me great satisfaction – especially when the customer is grateful and happy for the work.”

Palmer appreciates how ARKU feels like family. He notes, “When I first moved to Cincinnati, if I had an issue with anything, someone was always there to help.” He states that he has learned a tremendous amount since joining the company, from PLC programming to customer communication. When not on the job, Palmer enjoys cars, golfing, collecting sports cards, hunting, and fishing.



Palmer Erb has been a Field Service Technician for ARKU Inc. since 2022.

Palmer is looking forward to continuously servicing ARKU customers out in the field.

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