

NEWS RELEASE FROM: **BUHRKE INDUSTRIES, INC.**

DATE: August 30, 2004

**BUHRKE INDUSTRIES, INC.  
JOINS IMS FAMILY**

(Elk Grove Village, IL 8/27/04) Effective August 13, 2004, Buhrke Industries became part of the Innovative Manufacturing Solutions, Inc. (IMS) group of companies. IMS Corporation of Elk Grove Village, IL provides manufacturing and value-added services in electromechanical and mechanical assemblies sold to leading OEM's in the automotive, appliance, industrial and electronics industries. Manufacturing capabilities include sheet metal fabrication, precision stamping, gear manufacturing, electronic wire and cable assemblies and a broad range of electromechanical assembly and testing services.

For over fifty-five years, Buhrke Industries, Inc. of Arlington Heights, IL has been a leading supplier of progressive die tooling and metal stampings. In its early days, the company was well known for tooling innovations that included the first successful tools for pop top can lids and thin sheet aluminum baking pans. Today, the company is primarily a Tier Two supplier to the automotive market, providing precision custom metal stampings and automated assembly of complex components as well as serving customers in general industry. Buhrke Industries experienced solid growth over the last four years and has attained accredited certification for both TS16949 and ISO14001.

IMS has the financial backing of Bank of America Capital Investors. The addition of Buhrke Industries to the group of IMS companies represents a consolidation of related services, especially in metalworking, giving customers the ability to tap into a broad range of manufacturing services. Buhrke management will remain active and be involved in working with the entire IMS organization. Mike Chester, formerly President of Buhrke Industries and presently Chairman of the Tooling and Manufacturing Association (TMA), a trade association representing the metalworking industry in Northern Illinois, will assume responsibility for managing all fabrication, stamping and tooling activities for IMS.

With this development, the IMS family currently comprises Buhrke and the following companies: Exton Corporation, Elk Grove Village, IL, sheet metal fabrications and electromechanical assemblies for the electronic and appliance industries; Versatool Manufacturing, Elk Grove Village, IL, tooling and short-run stampings for general industry; Global Gear & Machining, Downers Grove, IL, high-volume gear manufacturing for the transportation industries; Electrol Company, Inc., Northlake, WI, electronic cable assemblies and wire harnesses for various industries.

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