



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Hamar Laser Instruments Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Founded in 1967 by Martin Hamar, the company's inspired designs helped to pioneer the laser alignment industry 50 years ago

Significantly higher accuracy, ease-of-use and problem-solving innovation—hallmarks of Hamar's early designs—continue to guide the company today

DANBURY, CONN., June 26, 2017 — Hamar Laser Instruments, Inc., a world leader in laser alignment, proudly announces its Golden Jubilee, the 50th anniversary of the company's founding in 1967 by Martin Hamar, a Cornell Engineering College graduate and holder of 28 U.S. and foreign patents. From humble beginnings to the global prestige it enjoys today, Hamar Laser represents the quintessential American business success story and continues to be at the forefront of state-of-the-art laser alignment technology.

As an enterprising and extremely talented young engineer employed by Perkin-Elmer, Hamar helped to design the world's first laser alignment system in the 1960s. Motivated by an ardent desire to design the most accurate laser alignment systems possible and to market them with customer-focused integrity, Hamar raised a modest amount of capital with the help of friends and founded the company that bears his name. In 1968, he sold his first device, the Model L-400, a straight-line alignment laser, to a company that remains a customer today.

"From the beginning, my philosophy has always been to provide my customers with a solution to their problems, not simply to sell them alignment equipment," said Martin Hamar, Chairman of the Board of Hamar Laser Instruments. "I worked hard to understand my customers' unique processes and how alignment problems affect them. With this knowledge, I designed practical alignment systems for real-world applications that successfully solved the real alignment problems. This philosophy continues to guide our company after 50 years."

Hamar began operations in the garage of the family home, meticulously designing and assembling the first alignment system. Today, the Danbury, Connecticut-based enterprise manufactures laser alignment systems that address virtually any alignment challenge, from simple shaft alignment to complex multi-axis, machine tool geometry applications. Hamar Laser serves customers in numerous countries on six continents, such as Boeing, Caterpillar, Doosan, GE, Lockheed, Mitsubishi, Siemens-Westinghouse, Sikorsky and most of the U.S. and foreign automakers.

"We have always believed in solving our customers' problems the *right* way," said Hamar's son, Rod Hamar, President of Hamar Laser. "So instead of offering general systems that are a weak fit for multiple applications like some competing companies, we have focused first on making the best system we can for a specific application, and only then adapting that system to other applications."

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Continuous leadership through relentless innovation

Across the years, Hamar Laser has focused on developing innovative solutions for a variety of challenging alignment problems, and is widely recognized as having achieved numerous “firsts” in the industry. Some of the most noteworthy include:

- 1973: Turbine Laser Alignment System
- 1974: Precision Laser Plane Technology
- 1976: Automatically Rotating Laser Plane
- 1981: 4-Axis Spindle Laser Alignment System
- 1990: 4-Axis Visible-Beam Shaft Alignment System
- 1992: Triple Scan™ Laser Alignment System
- 1996: Self-Centering Bore Laser Alignment System
- 2003: Dual-Beam™ Shaft Laser Alignment System
- 2004: Groove-Mounted Pulley Alignment System

Stories abound of Martin Hamar’s tireless pursuit of solutions to early challenges, such as the mounting of the laser source. “Without a stable laser mount, your alignment system won’t be very accurate, so I had to make one change per day to one of my early designs for a year and a half to get the level of stability I wanted,” Hamar recalled. Hamar’s determination and innovative design, however, were rewarded with the well-known “finger-mount” patent that helped to secure the company’s future.

A singular quest for accuracy and ease-of-use continues to inspire Hamar Laser. “Our overarching design goal is to meet today’s ever increasing need for tighter tolerances by making the most accurate systems possible, and to make them usable by nearly anyone with just a bit of technical skill,” explained Rod Hamar. “With our 50 years of experience, we understand our end-users’ needs and that knowledge goes into every laser we design or program we write.”

Having worked at Hamar Laser since 1996 and with an MBA in Finance from Columbia Business School, Rod Hamar is providing second-generation leadership for the company. “Martin is widely recognized as a leading figure in our industry and it is truly exciting and humbling to be continuing his impressive legacy,” he said.

Today, Hamar Laser is leveraging its five decades of experience and global leadership position to better serve the company’s growing customer base. “We’ve been spending a lot of time and resources on improving production and repair capacity, and with that behind us we are now back to focusing on new products and software to make our products even better than they are now,” said Rod Hamar.

“The company I founded is in very good hands,” said Martin Hamar. “Hamar Laser’s customers are benefitting from Rod’s combination of technological prowess and strong business skills. I believe his abilities and vision will ensure that our company continues to prosper for another 50 years or more.”

ABOUT HAMAR LASER

Hamar Laser Instruments, Inc. is a world leader in laser alignment. Drawing on 50 years of experience, the company designs, manufactures, sells and services a broad spectrum of precision laser alignment and calibration systems capable of tackling virtually any alignment challenge. From simple shaft alignment to complex multi-axis geometry applications, Hamar Laser’s alignment systems are renowned for being extremely accurate, highly efficient and reliable, yet simple and easy to use. Relentlessly innovative, the company continuously seeks challenging new alignment problems to solve. Currently celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding by Martin Hamar, a Cornell Engineering College graduate, entrepreneur and holder of 28 patents, Hamar Laser remains a leader in advanced alignment solutions. For further information, please visit www.hamarlaser.com.