

# Member Profile

## Alcoa Fastening Systems

**Year Founded: 1933**

**Location: Kingston, NY**

**Number of Employees: 135**

**Principle Product: Fastening systems and tools.**

**CEO: Russell Yeager**

**Council Member since: 1967**

Alcoa Fastening Systems, located in Kingston, has been a member of the Council of Industry since 1967. The company has a rich history of innovation and success.

The company was formed in 1933 by Louis C. Huck, a mechanical engineer who had graduated from Cornell University and worked briefly for General Motors. Mr. Huck had invented a blind rivet fastener, a fastener that can be attached even though access is limited to one side of a panel, and the equipment necessary to install these fasteners.

Huck fasteners are used in airplanes, trucks, trailers, railcars, school buses, automobiles, shopping carts, and dish antennas to name but a few applications. They are all around us, providing secure clamp force where needed. They are made of aluminum, titanium, steel, and an impressive variety of alloys. The sometimes simple and sometimes sophisticated tools that are used to install and secure these fasteners are almost exclusively made in the Kingston, New York facility.

Seeking labor expertise in tool manufacturing, Huck purchased Electrol Inc. in Kingston, NY in October of 1965 and consolidated its installation tool manufacturing operations into the single facility in Kingston, New York which became Hucktrol.

In 1991, The Thiokol Corporation, seeking to establish a commercial business base to balance its space and military operations, signed a definitive agreement to purchase the Huck Manufacturing Company. At the time, Huck had annual sales of about \$175 million, mostly in industrial and commercial aircraft markets, and employed 1,400 people in 14 manufacturing, distribution and sales locations in the United States and abroad. International markets represented about 37 percent of Huck's total sales. In 1998, Thiokol changed its name to Cordant Technologies which included Thiokol, Howmet and Huck International.

In 2000 Alcoa agreed to purchase Howmet and Huck from Cordant Technologies Inc. At the time Cordant employed about 17,000 people worldwide in three business groups.

Alcoa recognized the importance of the Huck brand in the industry and has retained it. Alcoa Fastening Systems manufactures Huck Brand Fasteners and equipment.



AFS Ergo-Tech® Blind Bolt System and "Smart" Installation Tool and Hardware

Today the Kingston facility has annual sales of over \$30 million. With 135 full time employees, They are building more than 600 tools per month and thousands of components. Alcoa Fastening Systems is a critical supplier to prestigious companies such as Boeing, Airbus, Lockheed, Gulfstream, Northrop, Sikorsky, Freight-

liner, Peterbilt, Kenworth, Volvo, Wilson Trailer, Great Dane Trailer, Trinity Rail, Freight Car America, Ford Motor Company,

Bombardier and many others. Their tools are used to install fasteners on the newly designed Boeing 787 Dreamliner and the new Airbus A380.

Huck is proud to be 'keeping it all together.' They are proud to be located in the Hudson Valley and the Council of Industry is proud to have them as a member.