



From old to new, the first Cozy Cab design was featured at Custom Products' recent open house. This model was introduced in 1963 and is shown along with two new introductions, the EZ Cab for compact utility tractors and an updated Cozy Cab to fit the John Deere X-Series garden tractor.



This aerial of the expanded facility shows Custom Products' operations in Litchfield, Minnesota.

CUSTOM PRODUCTS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

Founded in Litchfield, Minnesota by Arvid Reinke as Reinke Sheet Metal and Manufacturing the company began as a sheet metal job shop. By 1962 the company was building the Cozy Cab brand of aftermarket tractor cabs which grew to become a market leader. Growth was rapid in the early years as the company designed cabs to fit most agricultural tractor brands. A challenge prompted by government regulations requiring roll over protection on tractors in the early 1970s set the company on a new path. An in-house structural test laboratory was built to test roll over protective structures (ROPS) designed and built by the company.

Custom Products built its expertise in product design and testing and began supplying cab enclosures and ROPS directly to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) in addition to supplying implement dealers with the Cozy Cab product line. Today the OEM market is the greater share of the company's volume where the company provides complete design, testing and manufacturing services to its customers in multiple off-highway industries.

Custom's state-of-the-art test lab was built in 2005 to replace its original lab lost in a fire in late 2004. Today, structures on equipment as heavy as 350,000 pounds have been certified in the lab by applying forces of up to 700,000 pounds. In addition to testing its own designs, Custom Products does contract testing for other manufacturers of operator protective structures applying various industry safety standards developed worldwide. Nearly 700 such tests have been performed at Custom Products.

The Litchfield facilities now cover 130,000 square feet and feature high capacity laser metal cutting systems, hydraulic tube bending capabilities to 4-inch square, robotic welding and a quarter mile powered conveyor finishing line with a 5-stage wash, wet and powder paint systems and a 120-foot cure oven. At its recent 50th anniversary open house, Custom also celebrated the completion of its plant expansion and office remodeling project. Tours were given to over 400 guests including customer, vendors and employees and their families.

Delivering operator safety and comfort has been the company's mission for most of its 50 years in business and the company is well positioned to serve its customers, employees and the community well into the future.