

Architectural Woodwork Digest

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Second Generation Furnishings Inc. ... Beyond the Name

(Ontario Chapter Member)

Behind every successful company with an unusual name is a story that describes the essence of the firm's success. Second Generation Furnishings Inc. of Vaughan, Ontario is one such company. Founded in 1985, this custom millwork supplier has been servicing the institutional and commercial markets in Southern Ontario, providing quality custom cabinet-work for a demanding clientele.

The firm's partners, Robert Antonel and Dino DiStefano, were both educated in architectural technology. They met working for their fathers who were partners in a carpentry firm which thrived during the 1960's and 1970's. Both sons received their training in wood working while on the job. When it came time to choose a name for their own company, Second Generation was the logical

choice. The name represents the next generation's efforts to mark out for themselves an area of expertise and service. The result has been a successful company for the 1990's.

In ten years the company has grown from two employees in a 1,000 square foot shop, to over twenty five employees in a 20,000 square foot plant. Along the way they have crafted millwork for numerous schools, banks, libraries, community centres, and office interiors. Second Generation has worked as part of a team with general contractors and architects. The firm has achieved its success by treating every job, from the smallest to the largest, with the same attention and care.

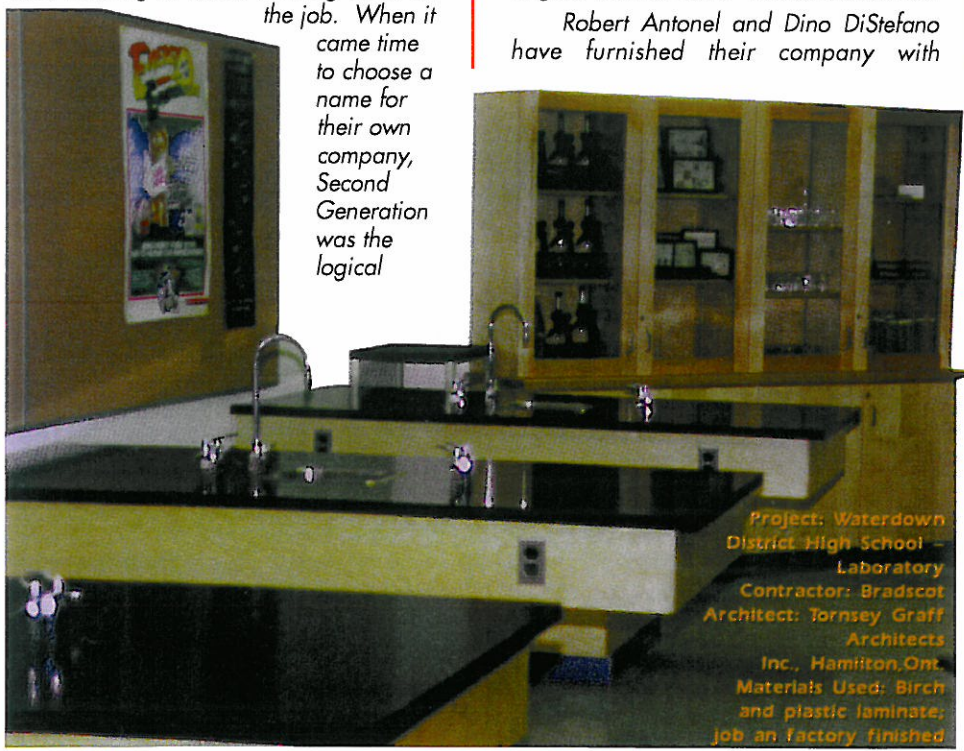
Robert Antonel and Dino DiStefano have furnished their company with

sophisticated machinery, shop computerization, and staff training. The application of advanced technology begins in the front office where staff utilize Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) to prepare shop drawings that are used in Computer Assisted Manufacturing (CAM). The company has been selected as a Beta test site for "third party software packages" such as Pattern Systems. This software has allowed for the planning of material breakouts and for numerically controlled cutting in the production of jobs.

All of the firm's office functions utilize the latest information technology to maximize efficiency and to provide quality service to clients.

Shop personnel utilize computers in optimizing production and in automating tasks. At the heart of Second Generation's quality and efficiency is their Morbidelli machining centre which combines routing, drilling and grooving, amongst other functions. The final touches are added in their automated assembly shop, to produce some of the most sturdy and exquisitely crafted millwork in the country.

Second Generation Furnishings Inc. has a well earned reputation of flexibility, foresight, and commitment to excellence. Robert Antonel and Dino DiStefano direct production with a hands on flair. They are there with their staff and there for their clients. It won't be long before Second Generation Furnishing Inc. expands its clientele to include the rest of Canada and the US market. This AWMAC member is a company to watch - dedicated to the future and yet firm in its grasp of tradition. ♦



Project: Waterdown District High School - Laboratory
Contractor: Bradscot
Architect: Tornsey Graff Architects Inc., Hamilton, Ont.
Materials Used: Birch and plastic laminate; job an factory finished