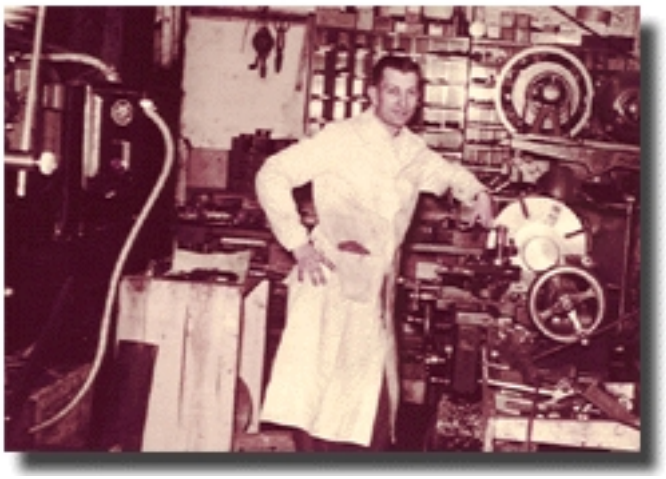

In 1948, Henry Kraklau bought a machine shop to manufacture die casting dies for the area's only die casting company.

As his business grew, Mr. Kraklau began to look for ways to improve the standards of the industry as a whole and to increase the productivity of die casting operations. Starting a tradition of innovative design that is carried on to this day, Mr. Kraklau introduced the Cross Slide Rotary table in 1953, an invention that dramatically improved previous designs for manufacturing die casting dies for inspection and machining applications.

Advance quickly followed this initial success with high-precision manual and CNC rotary tables used in manufacturing dies and plastic molds, producing thousands of the design. Advance continued to develop new technologies, rolling out its line of shot sleeves, plunger rods, and plunger tips in 1954.

By 1966, Advance was well in front of the rest of the industry when it began producing die cast automation equipment and pneumatic reciprocator spray systems. Further innovation and design refinement followed, resulting in the 1971 introduction of hydraulic reciprocators and ladlers. These hydraulic systems were replaced in 1981 with DC electric servo controlled reciprocators and in 1988 with DC electric servo-controlled ladlers.

Advance Products
BENTON HARBOR, MICHIGAN