



CHEMICAL ETCHING ELECTROFORMING LASER CUTTING PRINTED GLASS & FILM SMT STENCILS



# Our Philosophy

Thin Metal Parts (TMP) has clear industry leadership in the following areas:

- The most complete line of HIGH PERFORMANCE thin metal parts: Electroformed, Laser-Cut and Chem-Milled
- Continued TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP in the industry...with significant and on-going R&D
- An ISO 9001:2008 QUALITY certified company with complete process controls and analytical laboratory.
- Highly-trained and dedicated people to provide true APPLICATIONS SUPPORT
- A culture of COMMITMENT TO CUSTOMERS with continued investment in people, facilities, equipment and systems to support our commitment to be THE INDUSTRY'S BEST VALUE.

We encourage you to closely compare TMP's products and services to any other supplier. We are confident that TMP delivers the BEST TRUE VALUE.





# History of Thin Metal Parts

1985	Specialty Parts, a product line of Photo Stencil, was started to address the precision parts needs of the Photo Stencil circuit board manufacturing customers using photo-chemical milling process.
1990	Parts began to be manufactured using the laser cutting process.
1997	Became the first parts manufacturer to become ISO 9001 certified (now ISO 9001:2008).
1999	Began using the electroforming process to manufacture precision metal parts.
2002	Introduced multi-layer and 3D electroforming
2002	The Specialty Products Division became the <b>Thin Metal Parts</b> <b>Company</b> to better focus efforts on thin metal parts development.
2004	Significant efforts began to target new industries in addition to electronics.
2007	Thin Metal Parts acquired industry leading photo-plotting equipment, increasing quality and capability.

**2009** Achieved ITAR registration - certificate M25093

Throughout the history of Thin Metal Parts, the company's philosophy of "solution partnering" with customers has resulted in myriad innovations and products. A sampling of products developed as DOE projects:

- Precision Encoder Wheels
- 1250 LPI mesh for medical / analytical applications
- Innovative tooling rings for applications in extrusion plastics industry
- Glass products produced with 65,000 dpi mylar masters
- New mandrel rehab process for ultra-smooth applications





### **Complete Source**

Thin Metal Parts offers full in-house design, tooling, and manufacturing. With several manufacturing methods available, our staff is able to offer expert guidance and match the most appropriate method with each application.



### **Custom Metal Parts**

Electroformed Chemically-Milled Laser-Cut

# Imaged Glass and Film

High reflectivity chrome Low reflectivity chrome Iron-Oxide Aluminum-Oxide Emulsion





Mesh Electroformed Chemically-Milled Laser-Cut



# Analytical Sieves





### Lead Frames

Electroformed Chemically-Milled

### RFI/EMI Shields Chemically-Etched

Chemically-Etched Electroformed Chemically-Milled





# Encoder Wheels

Electroformed Laser-Cut Chemically-Milled Glass Mylar<sup>®</sup>



# **Chemical Etching**

Thin Metal Parts' chemical etching is an excellent choice for a wide range of designs and applications, offering tight tolerances, a long list of available materials & thicknesses, quick lead times, and competitive pricing. Through continuous innovation, TMP has elevated this tried-and-true process to new levels of capability.

### **TMP Advantages**

- Exclusively Vertical Chemical Milling
- Tooling complete in hours
- Tab-free designs available
- Clean-room photolithograpic area
- Exclusively collimated light exposure systems
- May be combined with electroforming and laser cutting to produce highly complicated designs
- Secondary Forming Available

### Thickness

From 0.0003" to 0.060"

#### **Available Finishes**

Nickel Chrome Tin Zinc Titanium Nitride Gold Silver Black Oxide Black Chrome ...and more



#### **In-stock Metals**

Alloy 42 Aluminum 1100 1145 2024 5052 Beryllium Copper C172 C190 Brass C260 C273 Cold Rolled Steel 1008 1010 1018 1075 Copper C110 C101 C102 C194 Nickel 200 201 Nickel Silver Phosphorus Bronze Spring Steel 440 716 Stainless Steel 17-7 301 302 304 316 420 430



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# Electroforming



The ultimate in precision and tolerance, Thin Metal Parts' electroforming process offers feature sizes as small as 15 microns. Exclusively utilizing pure nickel, the process combines photolithography and electroplating to build products that are tab and burr free.

### **TMP Advantages**

- Proprietary substrate preparation process results in mirror-like finish both front and back
- No visible grain direction
- Products are tab-free
- Clean-room photolithograpic area
- Exclusively collimated light exposure systems
- •Tooling complete in hours
- Most products can be shipped within 1-3 days

### Thickness

From 0.0002" to 0.010"

### **Tolerances**

Generally up to +/- 0.0003", although tolerances vary by application.





### Laser Cutting

Thin Metal Parts employs state-of-the-art laser equipment to achieve an outstanding combination of edge quality, tolerances, and feature sizes in a wide variety of metals. Specially designed for use with very thin metals, our lasers are able to create openings as small as 11microns.

### **TMP Advantages**

- · Laser Beam diameter 22 microns (0.00087")
- Excellent performance on metals not ideally
- suited for etching, such as titanium and tungsten
- In-house engineering
- Tab-free designs available
- May be combined with electroforming and chemical etching to produce highly complicated designs
- Secondary Forming Available

### Thickness

From 0.0005" to 0.025"

#### **Available Finishes**

Nickel Chrome Tin Zinc Titanium Nitride Gold Silver Black Oxide Black Chrome ...and more





### In-stock Materials for laser cutting

Alloy 42 Cold Rolled Steel 1008 1010 1018 1075 Inconel Kapton Kovar Molybdenum Nickel 200 201 Nickel Silver Nitinol Phosphorus Bronze Silicon Steel Spring Steel 440 716 Stainless Steel 17-4 17-7 301 302 304 316 420 430 Titanium





Tungsten

## Electroformed Mesh (e-fab)

Thin Metal Parts (TMP) offers highprecision E-Fab Mesh, manufactured with the proprietary electroforming process. E-Fab Mesh achieves the highest standards for optical light transmission (OLT), as well as for gas and liquid filtration applications.

### **Advantages**

**Thickness:** E-Fab Mesh is available in a wide range of thicknesses to suit the design requirements of each specific application. When strength is a concern, this process allows TMP to produce a product at greater thicknesses than woven wire or even other Electroforming techniques. Alternatively, E-Fab Mesh can be produced at very fine thicknesses down to 10 microns.

**Non-Woven:** Unlike woven wire mesh, E-Fab Mesh is a single, flat piece of metal. By eliminating the criss-cross wires, E-Fab Mesh will not trap particles...making cleaning more efficient. Additionally, light transmission can be maintained within a  $\pm 2\%$  transmission tolerance. **Corrosion Resistance:** Produced from 100% pure nickel with no plating to wear off, Electroformed Mesh has natural corrosion resistance that will not diminish with time.

#### Custom High-Temperature Option:

Through a custom-developed process, E-Fab Mesh can withstand temperatures exceeding 500°C for decontamination and tensioning requirements.

**Custom Manufacturing:** E-Fab Mesh by TMP is highly customizable by variations in wire width, hole size, thickness, hole shape and overall shape. A nearly limitless number of product configurations are available. Furthermore, TMP's cutting edge photolithography manufacturing techniques allow customizing to occur without long delays or high prices.

Wires per Inch	Hole Size (inches)	Wire Width (inches)	Maximum Transmission (Open Area)
750	0.00099	0.00034	55.0%
400	0.00194	0.00056	60.0%
300	0.00206	0.00073	61.0%
250	0.00325	0.00075	66.0%
200	0.00406	0.00094	66.0%
150	0.00570	0.00097	73.0%
110	0.00787	0.00122	75.0%
90.1	0.01055	0.00055	88.0%
70	0.01355	0.00073	90.0%

#### **Most Common Mesh Sizes**





### Electroformed Analytical Sieves (e-Fab)

Thin Metal Parts (TMP) offers high-precision E-Fab Analytical Sieves, manufactured with the proprietary electroforming process. E-Fab Analytical Sieves achieve the highest standards for particle sizing sieves available today.



### **Advantages**

Tolerance: up to ±2 microns

**Non-Woven:** Unlike woven wire mesh, an E-Fab Analytical Sieve is a single, flat piece of metal. By eliminating the criss-cross wires, E-Fab Analytical Sieves will not trap particles...making cleaning more efficient. Additionally, partical sizing can be maintained within a ±2 micron specification. **Corrosion Resistance:** Produced from 100% pure nickel, an E-Fab Analytical Sieve has natural corrosion resistance that will not diminish with time.

#### **Custom High-Temperature Option:**

Through a custom-developed process, E-Fab Analytical Sieves can withstand temperatures exceeding 500°C for decontamination and tensioning requirements.

Nominal Opening	Tolerance on Sieve	Limits, Openings per Linear Inch		
Size (µm)	Openings (µm)	Minimum	Maximum	
106	up to 2.0	120	150	
75	up to 2.0	150	200	
53	up to 2.0	200	280	
38	up to 2.0	250	350	
32	up to 2.0	280	400	
25	up to 2.0	300	500	
20	up to 2.0	400	750	
15	up to 2.0	400	750	

#### **Most Common Analytical Sieve Sizes**

#### Available Circular Frame Sizes

Current Nominal Diameter (in)	Inside at Top	Outside on Skirt	Nominal Height
3	3.0 in + 0.03/-0.00 (76.2 mm + 0.76/-0.00)	3.0 in + 0.00/-0.03 (76.2 mm + 0.00/-0.76)	1 in (25.4 mm)
8	8.0 in + 0.03/-0.00 (203.2 mm + 0.76/-0.00)	8.0 in + 0.00/-0.03 (203.2 mm + 0.00/-0.76)	2 in (50.8 mm)
8	8.0 in + 0.03/-0.00 (203.2 mm + 0.76/-0.00)	8.0 in + 0.00/-0.03 (203.2 mm + 0.00/-0.76)	1 in (25.4 mm)





### Metal Encoder Wheels

Thin Metal Parts (TMP) introduces the Metal Encoder Wheel product line for highprecision applications in Incremental and Absolute rotary encoders. Metal Encoder Wheels can be manufactured using the Electroforming Process, which ensures the highest quality metal encoder wheel available today. In addition, the Optical Masks produced by the same electroformed process are available in any size or configuration.



### **Advantages**

**Resolution:** The Electroformed Metal Encoder Wheels are available in resolutions previously unheard of in metal encoder wheel technology. Closer tolerances, greater design capability and increased consistency are all attributes of the TMP proprietary electroforming process.

**Flatness:** The TMP proprietary electroforming process reduces the amount of surface tension imposed on the metal encoder wheel, minimizing any possibility of warping.

**Cost:** In most applications, metal encoder wheels offer an inexpensive alternative to glass encoder wheels without sacrificing quality.

Most Common Metal Encoder Wheel Sizes

**Dimensional Stability:** Temperature and humidity have virtually no impact on the Metal Encoder Wheel. In addition, the TMP metal encoder wheels can be used in high-shock environments with dependable results.

**Corrosion Resistance:** Metal Encoder Wheels are 100% hard nickel, giving excellent corrosion resistance.

**Multi-Layer Technology:** TMP offers a multi-layer option to <u>maximize</u> the metal encoder wheel's stability and strength.

	MAX. TH	ICKNESS	FEATURE SIZE		
Resolution Count	int 1" Diameter 2" Diameter		1" Diameter	2" Diameter	
256	0.0025	0.0025	0.00552	0.01104	
512	0.0025	0.0025	0.00276	0.00552	
1024	0.0008	0.0025	0.00138	0.00276	
2048	N/A	0.0008	N/A	0.00138	

Other sizes available upon request from 0.25" thru 8.0" OD



### **Glass Encoder Wheels**

Thin Metal Parts (TMP) introduces the Glass Encoder Wheel product line for high-precision applications in Incremental and Absolute rotary encoders. Glass Encoder Wheels are manufactured using the Chrome-Etch Process, which ensures the industry's highest quality encoder wheel...metal or glass.



### Advantages

**Resolution:** The TMP Glass Encoder Wheels feature significantly higher resolutions per inch than available with metal encoder wheels. Up to 500 LPI is the standard, with greater resolutions available upon design approval. The line width standard is 0.001".

**Feature Size:** The standard minimum feature size is 15 microns, while smaller capabilities can be attained through custom design.

**Lead Times:** TMP's Chrome-Etch process allows for quick product turnaround times...generally within a 5 to 14-day period. **Dimensional Stability:** Temperature and humidity have virtually no impact on the Glass Encoder Wheel. Unlike metal encoder wheels, the TMP Glass Encoder Wheel has no tension or flatness problems.

**Design Flexibility:** Countless shapes and sizes are available for glass encoder wheels with diameters up to 3" standard...e.g., rectangle, square, bevel, center hole. Diameters of 3" to 7" require custom design. When floating features are implemented, TMP Glass Encoder Wheel options become limitless.

	Size	Glass Thickness	Feature Size	Feature Tolerance	On-Center/ Pitch
Typical	0.5 – 7"	0.02 – 0.06"	15 μm	±2 μm	±0.5 μm
Custom	up to 24x24"	up to 0.22"	3 µm	±2 μm	±0.5 μm

#### **Most Common Glass Encoder Wheel Sizes**



### Lead Frames

Thin Metal Parts offers a complete line of photochemically-milled and electroformed lead frames. A wide range of alloys are available to meet critical properties: high strength, formability, and high electrical and thermal conductivities.

Lead frames provide mechanical support to the die during its assembly into a finished product. It consists of a die paddle, to which the die is attached, and leads, which serve as the means for external electrical connection to the outside world. The die is connected to the leads by wires through wirebonding.

### **Advantages**

- Patented Electroforming Process
- Vertical Chemical Milling
- Rapid Prototyping
- Low Tooling Costs
- Burr-Free Edges
- Secondary Forming Available

#### Thickness

From 0.0005" to 0.060" Dimensional Tolerance  $\pm$  0.0005

#### Metals Available

### **Platings Offered**

Nickel Alloys Pure Nickel Copper Beryllium Copper Kovar Phosphorus Bronze Brass

Tin Tin-lead Silver Nickel Gold





## **RFI/EMI** Shielding

The RFI/EMI Product Line offers the highest quality RFI/EMI component shielding featuring burr-free edges, easy construction, and the ability to add custom logos, part numbers, or other identification. Thin Metal Parts specializes in quick-turn, prototype, and low-to-medium volume production runs. Manufacturing options include Chemical-Milling, Laser-Cutting, and Electroforming as well as metal stamping for the longer production run.

#### Sizes

- Sizes of squares and rectangles from 0.50" x 0.50" to 6.00" x 6.00" in 0.25" increments standard
- Fence heights from 0.075" to 1"
- Odd shapes and custom shields also available

#### **Options**

- One piece construction for most applications
- Separate fence and lid configurations for easy component accessibility
- Mounting pins spaced at 0.25" or 0.50"
- Fences available with or without board standoffs
- Logos, part numbers, or other identification easily accommodated
- Ventilation holes, lead access notches, or other requirements easily added
- Variety of base materials available including copper, brass, stainless steel, and Alloy 42
- Variety of plating options available including nickel, tin, lead/tin

#### **Standard Turn-Around Time**

• For orders of 1000 pieces or less, 3-5 days





### Glass Calibration Tools and Linear Scales

Thin Metal Parts (TMP) introduces the Glass Calibration Target product line, manufactured using the innovative Chrome-Etch Process. The TMP Glass Calibration Targets offer NIST Compliant **calibration tools** and **linear scales** for performing exact measurements.



### **Advantages**

**NIST Compliant:** All Glass Calibration Targets are Certified through NIST procedures and meet the requirements of MIL-STD-45662.

#### **Resolution and Feature Size:**

Standard resolution capability is 500 LPI and standard feature size is 15 microns. Greater resolutions and smaller feature sizes can be attained through custom design.

**Lead Times:** TMP's Chrome-Etch process allows for quick product turnaround times...generally within a 5 to 14-day period.

### **Dimensional Stability and Annual**

**Calibration:** Because TMP Glass Calibration Targets and Linear Scales are manufactured to NIST-compliant regulations, they offer consistency and dimensional stability. Annual re-certifications are offered with the TMP Glass Calibration Targets, along with Certificates of Compliance to document the re-certification accuracy.

	Size	Glass Thickness	Feature Size	Feature Tolerance	On-Center/ Pitch
Typical	0.5 - 7"	0.02 - 0.06"	15 μm	±2 μm	0.5 μm
Custom	up to 24x24"	up to 0.22"	3 μm	±2 μm	0.5 μm

#### **Most Common Glass Calibration Tool Sizes**



### Quality Assurance

# Thin Metal Parts is a certified designer and manufacturer of parts under ISO 9001:2008.





### Thin Metal Parts Line Card





















**Encoder Wheels & Masks** Inkjet Nozzles **RF/EMI** Shielding **Flat Springs** Flat Antennas Reticles Lead Frames **Filter Screens** Washers Shadow Masks **Capillary Clips** Gears Chassis **Chip Carriers Evaporative Masks Electrical Connectors** Waveguides **MicroGears** Heatsinks Shuttle Blades **Decorative Brass Optical Components Electroformed Mesh Electroformed Sieves** Imaged Glass Imaged film **SMT** Stencils Vent Components



# SMT Stencils

### New Materials New Processes

Thin Metal Parts offers four performance stencil product lines, each with a unique feature set and designed to meet specific and differing printing needs throughout the industry. Using of a combination of new materials, new processing & coating, and the latest specialized equipment, TMP stencils are the next generation of SMT printing tools.

	Next-generation laser cutting technology	7-stage aperture polishing process	High-performance proprietary Alloy 9 material	Electroformed Nickel 11 material	TMP-LACH® ultra-performace surface coating
E-Form Plus <sup>®*</sup>	•	•		•	•
Alloy 9 Plus*	•	•	•		•
Alloy 9 <sup>*</sup>	•	•	•		
True Laser	•				

\* These stencils outperformed similar leading-competitor's products in independent testing

#### Nickel 11 electroformed sheet

TMP's exclusively developed and manufactured material is specially formulated to outperform other electroformed nickel stencil materials. Nickel 11 offers:

- Increased solder paste volume
- Better print-to-print consistency
- Custom stencil thicknesses in 0.00025" steps
- Improved release characteristics

#### Next-generation Laser technology

A new level of precision reults in stencils with uniform apertures plus exceptional edge-to-edge performance.

- 25 micron wide fiber-source laser beam
- +/- 2 micron Axial Precision
- +/- 2 micron repeatability
- Custom motion algorythm ensures aperture wall profile is consistent across corners.

#### 7-Stage aperture polishing process

An optimized combiniation of several cleaning and polishing stages significantly improves paste volume performance.

- Solder bricks are cleaner and more consistent from print-to-print.
- Does not sacrifice edge sharpness between stencil surface and aperture wall.

#### Alloy 9 material

This proprietary material offers a unique combination of properties which pair optimally with TMP's laser equipment. When compared to stencils made with other alloys and stainless steels, Alloy 9 offers:

- Smoother aperture walls
- Consistently cleaner solder bricks
- Reduced print defects

#### **New Materials - New Processes**

Applying the advanced technologies and equipment developed for the manufacture of high-precision parts, TMP stencils offer new levels of printing performance.

• Customized laser is the only of it's kind in the U.S.

- All coatings are developed and applied in-house
- ODB++ file format is our design standard

# TMP-LACH<sup>®</sup> ultra-performance surface coating

An electrodeposited coating that significantly improves stencil performance characteristics and lifecycle.

- Superior Lubricity
- Enhanced Abrasion Resistance
- Highly Corrosion Resistant
- Improved Hardness



# Thin Metal Parts Systems

### Communications

- Complete Customer Profile Records.
- Technical Services Representative review of order requirements.
- E-mail order acknowledgement through Skyline software.
- Check Plot available upon request.
- All orders are tracked online by each workstation from receipt to shipping.
- Daily notification of shipment tracking numbers.

### **Quality System**

All orders follow ISO 9001-2000 procedures for Design and Manufacture Internal Reworks; late shipments (if any) and customer returns (if any) are tracked and reviewed on a daily basis.
All measurement equipment is calibrated with traceability to the National Institute of Standards.

#### Process

• Statistical Process Control Charts are established in critical areas such as Chemistry Tanks, Laser, etc.

• All measurement gages have passed Gage R&R studies. Accuracy checks are completed biweekly and tracked on X-bar Control Charts.

• Continuous improvement teams are actively improving processes based on Pareto Analysis of Top Issues.

• Regular coupon checks are completed using the lasers for Colorado, North Carolina, Mexico, etc.

- Processes are audited for compliance and for continuous improvements.
- Full Analytical Lab for Chemical and Process Control.
- Preventative maintenance is completed on all equipment.

### Inspections

• Inspection stations are located before and after Final Assembly. Quality checks are performed and the results are recorded.

• The CAD software includes automated and manual Quality Checks, which are recorded and maintained as a Quality record.

• The CAD software includes many proprietary Design and QC Tools.

• A Scan CAD inspection is completed on laser cut parts to detect the presence of all features.

• Inspectors are required to pass an Inspector Certification process.

### Environment

• Temperature and Humidity Controls are in place to achieve 1/16 mil accuracy for the Photo Process. In addition, clean rooms practices are used in the Manufacturing Area.

- Central high pressure Oxygen is used in Laser for smoother, more accurate walls.
- Process Flow is designed to better track product and reduce handling.





For more information about Thin Metal Parts or for technical support, please contact our headquarters at:

THIN METAL

PARTS

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