

From: Ed Smith, Operations Manager at Premier Gear and Machine Works, Inc. 4/24/13

Premier Gear & Machine Works does custom machinery design and manufacturing, plus gear manufacturing and repair; we have full machine shop facilities in NW Portland on the corner of Thurman and 17th. We have been in business since 1923; the company was started by Bill Lofstedt, a Portland, Oregon Resident and it is currently being run by third generation family.

We employ 25 people and supply customers all over the world with our products and services. Our customers range from OEMs, to Wind Farms, to Pulp and Paper factories. We help customers keep their facilities running and we help customers keep dams and wind turbines functioning. In addition to our manufacturing capabilities we also provide 24/7 Service, and we can handle very large jobs on our new Milling and Boring Machine – it has a 360 degree large rotating table, handles up to 66,093 pounds, and the spindle travels to a height of 73". This was a recent equipment purchase within the past 2 years at a cost of close to 1 million dollars. We are now paying Property Taxes on this machine to Multnomah County.

As a business in Portland and in Multnomah County we pay Income Taxes, County Taxes and Business License fees. We own the building that we occupy so we pay Real Property Taxes as well as Personal Property Taxes on the contents such as on our equipment, computers and furniture. We pay State Employment Tax, Contribute to the Worker's Benefit Fund and we pay a Tri-Met tax as well on our payroll. Our employees all live in the greater Portland area and they own homes, raise children, and therefore contribute also in the way of incomes taxes, and property taxes, while supporting local businesses.

The PDC has helped our business grow by partnering with us at Trade Shows, reducing our cost of participation, and by introducing us to other companies in the Portland area who have become customers and in some cases vendors.

It's very important that our company and the manufacturing industry here in Portland continue to partner with the PDC to grow and remain active in economic development. The City of Portland and Multnomah County seem to be doing all they can to give businesses, particularly manufacturing businesses, reasons to leave the area. There are several factors that we have to fight against in order to continue to have our business, and other businesses, stay and grow in the Portland area – things that need addressing include: bad traffic due in part to inadequate freeways and bridges, low national ratings on our public schools that continue to decline while class sizes continue to increase, high taxes in Multnomah County in particular that continue to rise with new ones being created like the Art Tax, and the existence of unions (we are not a right to work State). I know the City is faced with budget deficits, but things could get worse if the PDC is no longer available to support, partner, and assist in the growth of Portland based businesses.

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Ed Smith [e.smith@premier-gear.com]
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 6:55 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: Council Meeting 4/17/13

Karla,

I'd like to testify at the April 17th council meeting on behalf of the PDC.

Ed Smith
Operations Manager
Premier Gear & Machine Works, Inc.
1700 NW Thurman Street
Portland, OR 97209
503-227-3514

Best Regards,

Ed Smith
Operations Manager

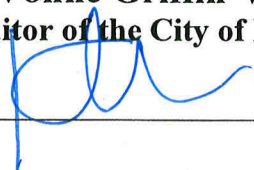
Premier Gear & Machine Works, Inc.
1700 NW Thurman Street
Portland, OR 97209
Office 503-227-3514
Fax 503-227-1611
Cell 503-939-5087
e.smith@premier-gear.com

Request of Ed Smith to address Council regarding Portland Development
Commission (Communication)

APR 24 2013

Filed APR 19 2013

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		