



### **Dayton Parts, LLC - HISTORY**

In 1922, a group of investors constructed a building in Harrisburg, PA to house the leaf spring operations of Harrisburg Stanley Spring Works. By the year 1927, Benjamin Franklin Barker was installed as president and general manager in an effort to make the operation profitable. Unfortunately, the depression of the 20's and early 30's forced that corporation into bankruptcy in 1934.

In 1935, Frank and Rhoda Barker formed a new corporation named Stanley Spring Works, Inc. After WWII, the federal government had a tremendous surplus of leaf springs. Barker was able to purchase thousands of tons of this surplus, which he resold at a substantial profit - enabling the business to invest in new equipment and manufacture a quality product.

In 1954, Angelo Paoletti was promoted to vice-president. Stanley Springs then began to build a substantial inventory of finished goods. With the high quality and inventory now available, Barker and Paoletti changed Stanley's marketing strategy from selling primarily to the automotive parts houses to selling exclusively to spring service shops and the export markets. This proved to be highly successful. With growing recognition in the industry, Stanley Springs expanded its marketing territory to include the Deep South and west to the Mississippi river. The most significant change in the company came in 1964, when Frank Barker sold controlling interest in the business to five of his employees: Angelo Paoletti, Edwin Musser, Charles Orris, Charles Haring John Stengel.

Under the guidance of new management, Stanley Springs more than doubled its rate of growth. They quickly reached the position of second in the country in replacement leaf spring sales and first in quality. A trend in facility expansion continued between 1969 and 1974.

With the great success of Stanley Springs, many large corporations began to court the company. Stanley Spring Works was sold to TRW - becoming Dayton Parts, Inc. in 1988 when Varsity Corporation combined TRW Heavy Duty Parts and Dayton Walther's after-market. In 1992, JPE, Inc. acquired Dayton Parts, Inc. and later acquired Brake, Axle and Tandem Company (BATCO), an industry leader in foundation air brake and wheel attaching components. In May of 1999, ASC Holdings LLC acquired controlling interest in JPE, Inc. In February 2003, the management team and Gen Cap of America became financial partners and acquired the business forming Dayton Parts, LLC. January of 2006, Management recapitalized the business with Capital Partners and continues to focus on high service levels for the heavy, medium and light duty truck Independent Aftermarket.