

BLOW MOLDING SPECIALISTS

▶ WORLD CLASS BLOW-MOLDED PRODUCTS PROUDLY MADE IN THE USA



POOL LADDERS AND STEPS



PATIO & SPA ESSENTIALS



CUSTOM BLOW MOLDING



“ Our 100,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art facility features 19 blow molding machines in operation 24 hours a day, 6 days a week. ”

> CAPABILITIES & FACILITIES

Welcome to Confer Plastics

Our 100,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art factory features 19 blow molding machines, ranging in shot size from 1 to 145 pounds. The plant runs 24 hours 6 days a week.



Heavy Duty Capabilities...

We have some of the largest blow molding machines in the world. This beast is 4 stories tall. It can drop more than 140 pounds of material and produce parts over 14 feet in length! Now that's what you call Heavy Duty.



Warehousing & Distribution...

Our pool and spa customers are given the peace of mind and certainty of supply throughout the season thanks to our 115,000 sq. ft. warehouse and distribution center.



All American Pride...

Your purchase of a Confer-made product keeps jobs - and your dollars - in America and gives excellent wages, benefits and quality of life to a workforce of more than 200 employees.



WHAT IS BLOW MOLDING?

Blow molding is a plastics process specific to hollow and dual-wall parts. The process is as follows: Small plastic beads and colorant pass through a heated mixing screw that reaches temperatures in excess of 400 degrees. Those beads become a molten mass that collects in the accumulator head of the blow molding machine. The tool/die of the head extrudes that molten plastic in the form of a hollow tube. This tube (called a parison) travels downward between the two halves of an open mold. When the parison reaches a specified length the mold closes, catching and holding the molten plastic. A rod-like blowpin or a series of needles is inserted into the mold, inflating the molten parison so that it fills the entire mold cavity. The mold cavity defines what shape the plastic will take. The formed parison cools within the mold for a period of one to four minutes depending on the size of the part. The mold then opens and ejects a formed part that is trimmed, finished, and packed by a worker.

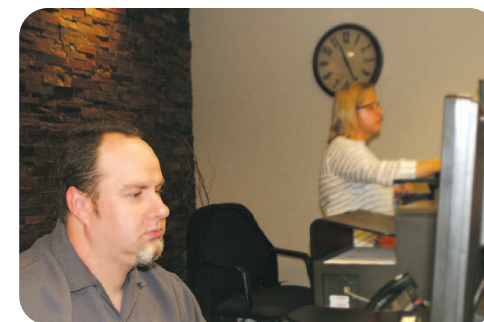


Where it All Began...

Our technical and maintenance personnel are among the best in the business. This is made evident by their ability to operate some really massive machines and by the skills and tender loving care that it takes to keep our machines running for decades – including this one from 1958 that is still in use to this day!

On-Site Machine Shop...

We have an on-site machine shop with skilled tradesmen who can alter or reengineer molds to improve your products.



The Human Touch...

We take pride in the quality of service provided by our people... from our management team who are involved in the development and production of custom products to our friendly customer care personnel who are ready to directly serve our pool & spa clients. The human touch is a critical part of how we do business.

Prime Location...

Our facilities are located along major state highways near Niagara Falls, New York. Those prime locations make us very accessible: We are within 500 miles of 55% of the US population and 62% of the Canadian population.





“ As a custom manufacturer, we have helped countless inventors and entrepreneurs achieve their American dream by allowing them to transform their ideas into reality. ”

> CUSTOM MANUFACTURING

As a custom manufacturer, we have helped countless inventors and entrepreneurs achieve their American dream by allowing them to transform their ideas into reality.

By having truly unparalleled experience, equipment and personnel, we've been able to help them change and grow their businesses and in many cases, as you'll see, we've even changed the entire marketplace if not the world.

CONFER INNOVATIONS

Kayaks and Paddleboards

We helped to develop one of the very first blow-molded kayaks. Prior to that, kayaks were roto-molded and quite expensive. Because of our innovations, kayaks are now very affordable and can be enjoyed by outdoor enthusiasts and families alike.



CONFER INNOVATIONS

The Living Hinge

In the 1960s, Ray Confer invented the living hinge that is used on almost every tool case and tackle box the world over. Prior to that, cases such as this one needed to be molded in two parts and they had metal hinges installed between them. Because of Ray's invention, cases now have a plastic film molded in place which acts as the hinge.



INNOVATIONS PRODUCT GALLERY

CONFER INNOVATIONS

Reebok Step

We produced the Reebok Step in the 1990s at the peak of the product's craze. These popular exercise aids can still be found in most gyms.



CONFER INNOVATIONS

Flexible Funnels

Doug Confer's flexible fuel funnel was patented in 1976 and we made hundreds of thousands of them before the patent expired in 1990 and production was lost to overseas competitors. It still gives us great pride, though, to see them in use in most every garage.



CONFER INNOVATIONS

Fireproof Safes

This fireproof safe was manufactured using an elaborate parison-draping process that Ray Confer was instrumental in developing. Because of parison-draping, you now have multi-walled products such as this that can be filled with insulation, foam, and fire-retardant materials.



CONFER INNOVATIONS

Purple Martin Gourds

Were it not for plastic gourds like this one the purple martin would be extinct. Over centuries, the colorful bird evolved to need human-made birdhouses. Native Americans originally hollowed-out gourds to keep the symbols of good luck in their communities. Our gourds are extremely popular with bird lovers, the most famous being former TV talk show host Phil Donahue.



CONFER INNOVATIONS

Electronic Voting Machines

We produced thousands of voting machines in the 1990s and then again after the Help America to Vote Act was passed.

We manufactured the bodies and privacy panels for these portable, electronic voting booths.

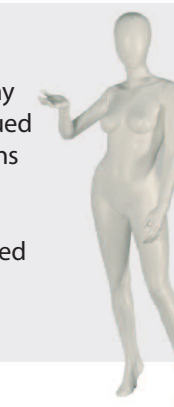


CONFER INNOVATIONS

Mannequins & Display Forms

For decades, we have made hosiery display forms and mannequins for one of our valued customers. They can be seen in retail chains throughout the country.

The legs we make for them were even used to mass-produce leg lamps as seen in "A Christmas Story".





Since 1973, Confer Plastics has been an industry leader with pool and spa products that offer features and designs you won't find anywhere else.



LEISURE ACCENTS

> POOL, SPA & PATIO

Since our founding in 1973, the pool & spa industry has been an important part of who we are and what we do. Our Confer-branded products are beloved in the industry. We have a strong reputation of providing innovative goods of the highest quality that allow families to get the most enjoyment out of their backyards. We are also widely respected for providing the very best in friendly service and customer support.

Spa Steps

Our spa steps come in various styles and an amazing number of colors – allowing for a perfect color match to the wide variety of spa colors on the market.



Spa Cabinetry

Our complete line of panels and corners give spa manufacturers an attractive, high-quality product to finish their spas, providing a superior alternative to the wood and extrusion panels of old. We also provide these panels as retro-fit kits to consumers who want to dress up their hot tub.



Pool Steps

Our founder Ray Confer invented the first all-plastic swimming pool ladder in the 1970s. Since then, we've dominated the industry with new and innovative styles of ladders and steps that are always in tune with safety, attractiveness, durability and affordability.



Pool Ladders

We've always been a leader when it comes to safety. Features such as the patented Roll-Guard enclosure on this ladder give parents the peace of mind they need to know that their children can't enter their swimming pool when it is unsupervised.



Lawn and Patio Furniture

Our diverse lawn and patio furniture line features picnic tables, bistro tables, balcony bars and stools. All of these products have a patented snap-together design and they are lightweight, durable, and maintenance-free.



Confer Plastics is a perfect representation of the American Dream. Their dream is one shared by generations of the Confer family.

> THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



Ray Confer was born in 1922 in Eagles Mere, Pennsylvania. His family moved when he was young, finding their new home in the Niagara region of Upstate New York. Ray served in the Second World War and upon his return took a job with Norton Laboratories in Lockport, NY, where he dabbled in plastics chemistry and product design during what were the formative years of the plastics industry.

In the 1950's, the hard-working man achieved one of his life's dreams, buying a farm in Gasport, NY. Ray tended the farm on the nights and weekends (with help of his wife, Gladys, and children Sharon and Doug) while working at Norton Labs during the day. It was this farm that allowed him to save enough money to achieve an even bigger dream that he had: Ray dreamed of having his own plastics factory where he could develop new plastics applications and turn his ideas into products, while helping others to do the same, bringing to fruition their own American Dream.

In the 1960's Ray put down his savings – and leveraged his home and farm – towards the purchase of plastics molding equipment. Renting space behind a small machine shop in North Tonawanda, NY, he and his business partner, Pete Schurman, created a small company called Air Mold where they further developed blow molding technologies. A few years later, Ray and a couple of associates operated another firm, Air Lock Plastics in Tonawanda. During that decade, Ray's ingenious mind spawned many inventions and processes now taken for granted in the plastics industry.

In the early 1970's Ray decided to go out on his own. He and his son Doug, fresh out of college, founded Confer Plastics, Inc. on January 22nd, 1973.

From 1973 to 1986 the company could be found in the Roblin Steel complex in North Tonawanda. In 1986 we moved down the road to our current location at the corner of the Witmer and River Roads in North Tonawanda. Since then, we've expanded that manufacturing complex on three occasions, adding space for assembly operations, warehousing, and more - and larger! - machines; our blow molding machines are now among the largest in the world. In 2005 we purchased a second facility just minutes away in Niagara Falls. That building is used primarily for warehousing and distribution.



Ray Confer passed away in 1999, but the company has grown at a consistent and successful pace under the watchful eye of Doug Confer. A company that was built by family lives by family, and that is the culture at Confer Plastics, one instilled into all of our people by Doug. Everyone is treated like a part of family, be they coworkers, suppliers, customers or the community at large. Our hands-on ownership and character-driven management style show that we believe in respecting others and having others respect us. You can see that in the number of employees who have worked at Confer Plastics for twenty years or more or the number of customers who have been with us for decades.



The family atmosphere at Confer Plastics will continue well into the future. Bob Confer, Doug's son, started working at the company in 1993 and Doug's daughter Connie joined the team in 1999. They share Doug's family values and they have surrounded themselves with like-minded peers in management.

Confer Plastics is a perfect representation of the American Dream. It's a successful business that was founded by men who had the aspirations to bring ideas to life and the work ethic and intelligence to make it work. Their dream is one shared by generations of the Confer family. We truly hope that our people, processes and products contribute to YOUR American Dream!

> NATIONWIDE DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

Confer branded products can be found at dealers across the country. Our nationwide distribution network is so extensive, it encompasses virtually all of the U.S. and parts of Canada.

If you are interested in becoming a Confer Plastics distributor call 1-800-635-3213.





At Confer Plastics, it is our corporate culture to support our friends and neighbors in an effort to make the area – and our country – a better place.

> CONFER PLASTICS AND THE COMMUNITY

Community means a lot to Confer Plastics. It is our corporate culture to support our friends and neighbors in an effort to make the area – and our country – a better place.

Financial Giving

Confer Plastics gives substantial monetary support to a select handful of organizations each year, with a focus on entities that help local youth and teens. Kids are the future of our nation and they are always the bright spot of the present. We feel that our money is best served being spent on the young, giving them the chance to learn, play and succeed while rising above any adverse circumstances that the economy or the world may have presented them and their families.

Donation of Products to Fundraisers

While Confer Plastics' financial giving is limited to only a few specific organizations, our charity doesn't end there. We give our products – and LOTS of them – to local events and fundraisers that help smaller organizations (like churches and schools) and, especially, families that are in great need in times of health issues and other crises. Every year we give away more than 250 of our Leisure Accents patio sets and picnic tables to such events. These sets make great raffle, door and basket prizes which can help the organizers of these fundraisers bring in some big money to benefit those in need.

Plant Tours and Shadowing

A lot of companies shut themselves off to the community at large and don't allow plant tours. Confer Plastics, on the other hand, welcomes visitors. Our doors are open to community organizations for kids and adults alike. Our plant tours give the visitors a rare chance to see manufacturing in operation and are customized to fit the need of the audience – our accompanying presentations focus on topics such as organizational leadership, STEM, and career-readiness.

Related to this, we also run shadowing programs through which high school juniors and seniors spend a day with one of our coworkers to learn the ins and outs of the career/education path the student might pursue. These field experience programs introduce teens to a number of roles in business, manufacturing, skilled trades, and more.

Confer Plastics has decades of experience in the design, production and distribution of blow molded products covering the following diversified fields:

SWIMMING POOLS

Ladder > Steps > Entry Systems > Solar Decking > Filter Tanks > Pool Wall Supports

HOME, GARDEN AND GARAGE

Patio Furniture > Gazebos > Garbage Cans > Fencing > Fuel Tanks > Bird Houses
Lawn Ornaments > Mailbox Posts > Cellar Doors > Basement Egress Systems > Fuel funnels
Tool Cases > Vacuum Cleaners

SPAS AND HOT TUBS

Spa Cabinets > Steps > Spa Pads > Spa Bars > Portable Spas

RECREATION

Sleds > Snowboards > Exercise Steps > Hockey Sticks > Toys > Crossbow Cases

MARINE

Kayaks > Stand-Up Paddleboards > Docks > Marine Fuel Tanks > Boat Seats > Boat Bumpers

OFFICE

Copying Machine Components > Toner Bottles > Fireproof Safes > Safe Liners

RETAIL

Mannequins > Hosiery Forms > Bollards > Shopping Cart Corrals

SAFETY

SCBA Cases > Traffic Cones > Road Barriers > Airport Barriers > EMS Backboard > Breakwalls
Chemical Totess > Hypodermic Needle Containers

GOVERNMENT & MILITARY

Voting Machines > Small Craft Barriers

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