

MADE IN (269)

## THE DATA

### COMPANY

MANN+HUMMEL USA

### WEBSITE

mann-hummel.com

### HEADQUARTERS

Lugwigsburg, Germany

### LOCATIONS

70+ (20,000 employees worldwide)

### REGIONAL LOCATION

6400 S Sprinkle Rd, Portage, MI 49002

### REGIONAL FOOTPRINT

440,000 Square Feet

### YEAR FOUNDED

1941

### LOCAL EXECUTIVE

Kirk Wilks

Vice President and General Manager  
MANN+HUMMEL USA

### SALES REVENUE

3.04 Billion Euros

### WHAT THEY MAKE LOCALLY

Air Cleaners, Intake Manifolds,  
Technical Plastic Parts

### RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Doing the right things right.

### PRODUCT BRANDS

MANN-FILTER, WIX-Filters,  
FILTRON, Purolater,  
MICRODYN-NADIR

### MARKETS

Automotive Original Equipment,  
Automotive Aftermarket, Industrial  
Filtration, Water Filtration

### WHO WORKS HERE

Engineers, production associates, skilled  
trades, design testing, supply-chain  
management, logistics, administration,  
accounting, human resources, finance,  
IT, and more.

### NOW HIRING

Functional areas can apply at  
career.mann-hummel.com. Production  
seekers should contact OnStaffUSA.



# It's a Family Affair

## MANN+HUMMEL'S ROOTS SPREAD CULTURE

**STORY** HEATHER BAKER

**IMAGES** COURTESY OF MANN+HUMMEL USA, INC.

**By 1941, Germany's wartime efforts weighed heavily on the nation's economy. Even more so at textile manufacturer Willh. Bleyle GmbH, which struggled to stay afloat amidst declining profitability and Nazi criminal charges levied against its leadership. The Bleyle family tasked two long-time employees, Adolf Mann and Dr. Erich Hummel, to save the company as its owners were carted off to jail.**

Mann and Hummel signed a licensing agreement with piston manufacturer Mahle to take on the production of oil and air filters in an effort to save employees' jobs.

Fast forward to today. Political and social structures have shifted. Industrial innovations and consolidations have changed the face of manufacturing. For 75 years, MANN+HUMMEL's commitment to customers and its workforce have remained steadfast.

Family still plays an important part in the company's decision-making, as does treatment of its locations as home. Thomas Fischer, grandson of Adolf Mann, currently represents the interests of the Mann family





**FAST FACT**

Every second, 24 MANN+HUMMEL filter elements are produced, shipped, sold, and installed worldwide.

as Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the MANN+HUMMEL Group. Ludwigsburg, Germany, one of three original locations, remains headquarters. And when the company puts down roots in a new location, it makes every effort to grow in the community.

**F**ocus  
**I**ntegrity  
**L**eadership  
**T**eamwork  
**E**xcellence  
**R**espect

In 1997, MANN+HUMMEL acquired Geiger Technik in Portage, Michigan, which produced cooling and brake fluid reservoirs and employed about 100 people in a 50,000-square-foot plant locally. Driven by its **core FILTER values**, MANN+HUMMEL's local footprint now stands at 440,000 square feet with about 550 associates.

"MANN+HUMMEL is passionate about working every day to live our values. We can't claim to be absolutely perfect at focus, integrity, teamwork, leadership, excellence, and respect but, I can tell you, we're perfect at trying," said Kirk Wilks, Vice President and General Manager MANN+HUMMEL USA. This passion was acknowledged most recently with the 2015 Ford World Excellence Award and

General Motors' Supplier of the Year and Prime Supplier recognition.

This passion carries over into how the company treats its employees and community members—much like members of a big family. "We have a strong foundation for employee involvement based on how MANN+HUMMEL started," shared Wilks.

Most engagement activities focus around employees' families. "Family Day is our annual picnic for employees and their families right here on campus. We have lots of food, fun, and activities for kids. When we go offsite to catch a Kalamazoo Growlers game, family is included. And, we allow flex time in ways that allow people to take care of what they need to outside of work," explained Wilks.

MANN+HUMMEL gives a few unique perks too, due to the company's automotive connections. Last year, the company administered a rebate-matching program and offers an ongoing filter payback package. "Employees who purchased new vehicles received a \$500 rebate from our customers and we matched it," said Wilks. "We also pay for your car filters—if you use our brand."

"Access to infrastructure, talent, and a supportive business climate here drives us to continue to invest in Southwest Michigan," added Wilks. That investment even happens outside of the company's physical campus. "Each quarter, we select a charitable organization within the community to support like the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, Habitat for Humanity, blood drives, or even community planting areas. Employees put together proposals in support of their favorite charity and functional areas rotate selection of what to support."

Investment is also made towards the company's future workforce. "We have a great relationship with Western Michigan University and offer a number of internships in areas such as engineering and supply-chain management. We're even working with local high schools on identifying internship candidates that can work with us now with the potential for post-graduation employment. Because of our commitments, we have people who started here in internships that are now working at our leadership table," Wilks concluded. "We're a company that puts roots down and stays."