



# ROMAN ELECTRIC CO.

Since 1929

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 2  
SPRING, 2002

## INSIDE

- Bombardier Plant Renovation, continued.....2
- Northern Builds in Oak Creek, continued.....2
- "Much More Pleasant" Parking.....3
- New Condos in Historic Building.....4

## "COMMENT"

“The Bombardier job was a great challenge for us. Renovating the electrical systems we originally installed for Golden Books included rerouting substantial power to Bombardier’s CNC machining line. And we had to do it quickly to meet the company’s aggressive outboard engine production goals.”



Bernie Cleppe  
Vice President  
Racine/Kenosha  
Division

# CURRENT events

Electrical Construction and Maintenance News for Business and Industry

## Bombardier Renovates Huge Plant in Sturtevant

Bombardier Recreational Products, the \$21.6 billion manufacturer of products ranging from Lear jets to Amtrak trains to Ski-doo snowmobiles, has bought and renovated the 600,000 sq. ft. former Golden Books plant in Sturtevant.

Bombardier bought Evinrude Johnson outboard engines two years ago and has now relocated production from Waukegan, IL to the huge Sturtevant plant which serves as Bombardier world headquarters for outboard engines.

Roman Electric’s Racine/Kenosha office helped construction manager Axor Construction of Montreal and



*Renovating the Bombardier facility was the second time around for Roman Electric, which designed and built the huge, original electrical system for Golden Books. Here, outboard engines near completion on Bombardier’s powerhead assembly line.*

general contractor Berghammer Corporation remodel the plant in record time. For Roman it was the

second time around since they designed and installed the original high-capacity 10.4

*Continued on page 2*

## New Oak Creek Facility for Northern Computers

Northern Computers Inc. has built a new 156,000 sq. ft. building at 135 W. Forest Hills Ave. in Oak Creek to combine

its office and warehouse. Northern Computers, owned by Honeywell, provides access control and security

management systems for industries worldwide. It was the first company to offer PC-based access control software in the early 80s.

Roman Electric designed

*Continued on page 2*

*Northern Computers Inc. combined its office and warehouse operations in this new 156,000 sq. ft. plant in Oak Creek.*





## Outboard Engine Manufacturing

*Continued from page 1*

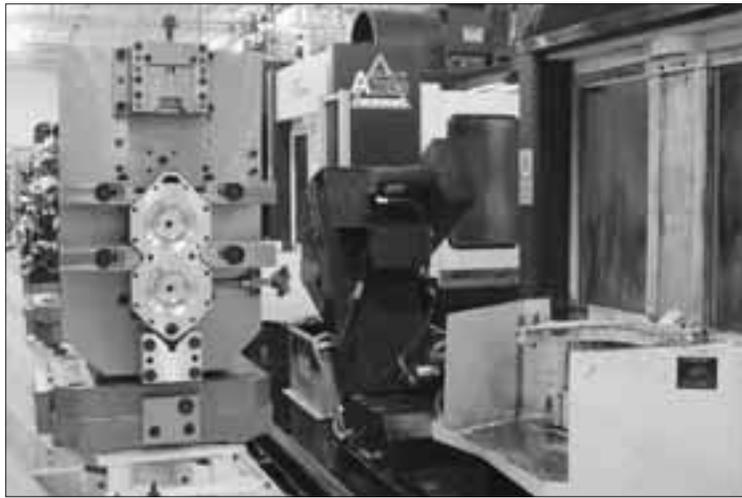
megawatt electrical system when the Golden Books plant was built in 1997. Roman had a crew of up to 38 electricians on the \$2 million plus renovation.

Roman disconnected existing printing equipment,

reconfigured the electrical system, powered an array of CNC equipment, and installed assembly lines. Roman also had separate contracts with Logic Systems to install wiring for 7000 ft. of overhead conveyors and a spray paint line.

The challenging, constantly changing job for Roman included new and existing

***Roman Electric substantially rerouted and upgraded electric power to accommodate Bombardier's manufacturing equipment. The automated line of CNC equipment at right produces cylinder heads (left) for outboard engines.***



***Bombardier Recreational Products, a \$ world headquarters for outboard engine Sturtevant. Bombardier completely renovated Golden Books for printing in 1997.***

equipment, repairs, debugging and ongoing service work. Because Axor required fast turnaround for time & material billing, Phil Rose helped set up a T&M billing system the Roman foremen used for daily pricing.

Michel Bouchard, Axor on-site director, was pleased with Roman's work. "Roman knew everything in the plant because they built the existing electrical system so it was very easy for us to modify and manage power and wiring. Roman's

## Northern Computers

*Continued from page 1*

and built the \$680,000 electrical system. They installed a 2000 amp 277/480 volt service, power and lighting networks, and special wiring for the company's sophisticated computer room. Included were

33 battery-powered UPS units for immediate power in case of a power outage, and a 250 KW diesel generator with a 400 amp transfer switch for up to 24 hours of backup power. Scott Kowalkowski was Roman project manager and also designed the electrical system.

Roman TechNet built the computer room which included 32 racks for servers and related computer equipment, cable

***Northern stores its sophisticated access control and security management hardware and software in a new 80,000 sq. ft. warehouse.***



**"If you're like us, you're always looking for new ideas, better methods and new business."**



**is one way we can show you building developments, new power systems, information technologies, skilled techniques, useful ideas. We want you to remember Roman Electric when you're ready to build or repair electrical systems, computer networks and voice/data installations."**



**21.6 billion global giant, relocated its es to this 600,000 sq. ft. plant in ovated the plant which was built by**

crew, engineer Phil Rose and project manager Rick Kugel were all very good. We started work August 1st and by September 15th had the first line ready to start producing outboard motors. That kind of speed was a big miracle.”

Bombardier is now producing about 200 outboard engines per day. Also key to Roman’s success were division vice president Bernie Cleppe and foremen Mel Brady, Mike Czerwinski, Jerry Pipol, Andrew Hogard and John Sommers. 

trays, cabinets and a raised floor.

General contractor was Cunningham Limp of Farmington Hills, MI. Project superintendent Larry Wisniewski said, “Roman is a good contractor with good coordination and workmanship. From management on down they’re a pleasure to work with. Roman did an excellent job.”

Executive assistant Patty Stolowski of Northern Computers, who worked with Roman, said, “Roman was fantastic. They did a great job and were very good on followup. They gave us whatever we needed to keep

***This transfer switch activates standby power for the computer room as needed. Roman installed battery-powered UPS systems for immediate backup power and a 250 KW diesel generator for up to 24 hours of standby power.***

## Brighter, More Appealing Grand Avenue Mall Parking

If you’ve recently driven on I-794 past the downtown area at night you may have wondered if the brightly lit parking structure to the north is something new. That shining jewel is Grand Avenue mall’s refurbished Plankinton garage. Polacheck Property



Management Corp., which represents Grand Avenue owner New Arcade LLC, a subsidiary of Northwestern

metal halide has a much broader color spectrum. For example, a green sweater looks black under high pressure sodium light. The garage is now a much more pleasant place to be.”

Roman upgraded 1002 light

***The Grand Avenue mall parking structure, seen from Michigan St. (top), above Michigan St. (left) and from I-794 (below) is a much warmer, brighter, more pleasant site with the installation of new lamps in all 1002 light fixtures.***

fixtures by replacing the 100 watt high pressure sodium lamps with 150 watt metal halide lamps. Roman project manager Mark Holter worked with president Gerv Rose to design the job. Then Mark put up a variety of sample fixtures and optics to help Joe Weirick choose the best match for the look he had in mind.

Roman also upgraded the electrical service to handle increased fixture size and power load. Roman foreman was Dave Emery.

The Grand Avenue mall parking structure runs west from Plankinton Ave. over and beyond Second St. 

the business going.”

Mike Pucylowski was Roman general foreman on the job and Steve Tobias was foreman. Roman TechNet project manager was Scott Archie and Dan Patterson was foreman. 



Mutual Life, is redoing parking deck lighting, painting, graphics and signage. Roman Electric handled the sizable relighting job.

Polacheck president Joe Weirick said, “Roman did a nice job. We’ve received a lot of positive comments on the improvements. We switched from high pressure sodium lights to metal halide. The light is whiter, brighter and shows color more realistically because





## Art Deco Building Converted to Condos

The historic Grain and Stock Exchange building downtown at Milwaukee and Mason Streets is being converted to condominiums. The 10 story Art Deco building will feature 30 condos and underground parking.

Choices will range from a 931 sq. ft. unit for \$193,400 to a two-story 2753 sq. ft. unit for \$760,590. The gracious condos offer impressive features including hardwood floors, French doors, complete

*The 10 story Grain and Stock Exchange building at 741 N. Milwaukee St. is being converted into 30 condominiums and underground parking.*

appliances, ceramic tile in designer colors, walk-in closets, carpeting, custom cabinets and vanities, outdoor balconies and expansive views.

Electrical systems were installed by Roman Electric on a design/build basis for general contractor Selzer-Ornst Co. Burke Properties is the developer.

Working with Miller Architectural Group, Roman designed and installed a new 1600 amp service to power and light the remodeled office building. Roman also designed



a new transformer vault for an existing space beneath the sidewalk on the Milwaukee St. side of the building, and installed a fire alarm system.

For the voice, data and TV systems, Roman TechNet installed 16,000 ft. each of voice and data cable and 240 jacks each for voice, data and CATV.

Bruce Howard was Roman project manager on the electrical work and Scott Archie was TechNet project manager. Roman foreman was Mike Placzkowski and Mike Rekowski was TechNet foreman. 

*The well-furnished units include features such as hardwood floors, ceramic tile, carpeting, appliances, custom cabinets and outdoor balconies.*



Visit Our Websites at:  
[www.romanelectric.com](http://www.romanelectric.com)  
[www.romantech.net](http://www.romantech.net)



**ROMAN  
ELECTRIC  
CO.**

Since 1929

**Roman Electric**  
 640 South 70th Street  
 Milwaukee, WI 53214-0396  
 (414) 771-5400

**Racine/Kenosha Office**  
 2900 Wisconsin Street  
 Sturtevant, WI 53177-2449  
 (262) 886-3742

**CURRENT**  
 events

Published by Wisconsin's Recommended Electrical Contractor

(414) 771-5400  
**Roman Electric Co.**  
 640 South 70th Street  
 Milwaukee, WI 53214-0396

PRSR-STD  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Milwaukee, WI  
 Permit No. 5942

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED