

**IRONBOUND HEAT TREATING COMPANY "SOLD" ON VFS
FOR THE FOURTH TIME IN FIVE YEARS**



VFS announces its fourth furnace sale in five years to Ironbound Heat Treating Co. of Roselle, NJ, a 10 bar high pressure internal quench furnace (HIQ-5478-10) purchased primarily for stainless and tool steel heat treating. "Our first three VFS furnaces' performance and dependability have allowed us to expand our business dramatically," cites Ironbound's President John Ross, adding, "The VFS CompuVac controls also make furnace operation simple and predictable while ensuring that the results are repeatable."

Ironbound's first VFS furnace, a 5 bar, high pressure internal quench furnace (HIQ-3836-5) was purchased in 1992. This acquisition immediately opened the door to new heat treating opportunities in new industries allowing the company to quench work loads faster and to quench at specific rates to treat certain steels. In 1993, the company added a 6 bar, high pressure internal quench furnace (HIQ-5748-6) primarily for use in work hardening and batch heat treating of stainless and tool steel. "The VFS 6 bar high pressure quench furnace is a real work horse," said Ross, "it's the most cost-effective furnace for handling a wide variety of heat treating jobs."

In 1996, Ironbound purchased its third VFS furnace, a 2 bar, external quench furnace (HL-36EQ-2) with an all-metal hot zone, chosen in order to eliminate parts contamination and distortion during heat treating of cosmetically clean surgical parts and intricate die cast applications. The furnace was installed in a climate-controlled and contamination-free cleanroom. A commercial heat treater for 52 years, Ironbound was founded by John S. Ross and named for the Ironbound section of Newark, NJ, where the company was then located. Moved to Roselle, NJ, by second generation and current CEO John A. (Jack) Ross, the firm has doubled its sales over the last three years. Ironbound's President John S. Ross (grandson of the founder) attributes the remarkable growth in large part to the application of two new VFS high pressure quench furnaces.