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A1 American Metal Refinishing Inc. restores outdoor furniture as well as metal gates, railings, benches, statues, and marine and auto parts.

Refinishing company gives old products new life

By Andrea O'Neal
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A1 American Metal Refinishing Inc. pays homage to its name — all products used are American-made and American-manufactured.

John Bender, owner of the sandblasting and patio-furniture repair factory, says his reasoning is simple: "I always try to buy American when I can, in order to support the country."

Bender started the company in 1991. After 21 years, he continues to stress the importance of quality service.

"In 1972, I opened a store that sold patio furniture, and once in a while I had some furniture that I wanted to have refinished," said Bender. "I couldn't get good service, so I eventually decided to start my own business."

It was the birth of A1 American Metal Refinishing Inc.



John Bender,
Owner, A1
American Metal
Refinishing Inc.

The company's client list includes private designers, marine dealers, country clubs, water parks, resorts, marinas, racing teams and custom-car restorers — among others.

A1 American Metal Refinishing doesn't just specialize in sandblasting and repairing outdoor furniture. The company also offers services such as refinishing and restoring metal gates, railings, benches, statues, and marine and auto parts.

"The transition into providing services for different things was natural," Bender explained. "We already had the equipment, so when peo-

ple started bringing in different things, it became a natural addition to our business."

A family-owned company

Bender's two sons, from the ages of 10 and 12, grew up in the business. Summers spent helping in the factory developed into the boys rising in the company, first in sales, then in management.

Bender hopes to continue this trend: "I have three grandchildren: two boys and a girl," he said. "Hopefully, they want to continue with the business."

Good for Mother Earth

A1 American Metal Refinishing's pledge to buy and use American products helps the U.S. economy. But the company's philosophy also helps the environment.

"Instead of filling up landfills with metal and plastic, we're reusing old metal," Bender noted, adding that the items his company refurbish-

es and sandblasts reduce the need for using more non-biodegradable products.

These services have made A1 American Metal Refinishing the premiere factory for its market: refurbishing and repairing items throughout Southeast Florida.

Premiere customer service

"If we don't take care of our customers, someone else will."

That is the motto that drives John Bender and A1 American Metal Refinishing. The company offers its customers a high-quality experience, every time. The company's foundation is based on the belief that customers' needs are of the utmost importance.

Obviously, this approach works. A1 American Metal Refinishing has had some of the same customers since it first opened its doors 21 years ago.

"We really try to keep people happy," Bender said.