OCTOBER 2026

Fin Facts

Bi-Monthly Robinson Fin Machines Newsletter



WHERE'S THE FIN?

For the past 10 years, we have made two pieces of fin for Altex Technologies which ultimately go into the radiator of the M1 Abrams Tank. The M1 Abrams Tank, from its inception in 1980, has been a recognizable part of the US military's armored forces. It is able to effectively balance firepower, advanced armor, and enhanced mobility.

The heat exchanger has a cross-flow design in which the two types of fin intersect at a 90-degree angle. The short plain fin travels parallel to the tubes that circulate hot water while the perforated fin travels perpendicular. The heat exchanger transfers heat from the hot water into the surrounding air.

By using perforated fin design, heat rejection was increased by 30%. Heat rejection is the engineering process of removing unwanted thermal energy from an operating system to maintain its performance and structural integrity. If the unwanted thermal energy is not removed, it could cause temperatures to rise and degrade operational efficiency.

Through the dedication and hard work of our operators, we are able to continuously run and supply these parts!

A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP...

Nathaniel Lowe, General Manager



Thank you for your hard work and commitment to Robinson Fin. Many of you have changed roles to match your skills with our needs and you've done it willingly. I appreciate it.

Over the past few years we've added about 52,000 square feet of manufacturing space, a new double truck dock, remodeled offices, a new training program, numerous pieces of new production equipment, updated fin machine controls, and improved break areas and grounds. Next we're remodeling the Little Chicago Room so our facilities look and feel like one campus. As we grow, change will keep coming. It isn't always easy, but it's made us stronger, and that's because of you. Thank you for your ideas, flexibility and patience. Nobody makes FINS like we do!

WATTS OF WISDOM

You can do multiple things at one time. The trick is to do each, one at a time.

Newsletter Highlights

A tiny component in advanced firepower machinery

A message from General Manager, Nathaniel Lowe

A Day in the Life of the Collins Department

Catch up on the Acts of Kindness Campaign

Sign up for the RFM Costume Contest!

Check out all the Hardin County Trick or Treats!

RFM Robinson Fin Machines

A *"DAY IN THE LIFE"* OF COLLINS

The Collins EDM and Fin departments play a vital role in supporting Collins Aerospace by producing a wide variety of critical components. Each day begins with a team meeting where employees review priorities, discuss schedules, and address any questions or challenges to ensure everyone starts the day aligned and informed.

Following the meeting, the team separates into their respective departments and gets to work. Ashley coordinates closely with Lakota to confirm machine setup requirements and monitor the progress of jobs throughout the day. On the EDM side, machine setups are handled by Ashtin, Cameron, and Naomi, ensuring production runs efficiently and on schedule.

The Fin department focuses on running, cutting, and sizing parts, while the EDM team performs the precision burning processes required for specific components. Supporting both departments is Doug, the team's degreasing specialist, who helps keep operations moving smoothly.

Quality remains a top priority throughout the day. Ashtin, Cameron, and April conduct the daily 9:00 a.m. audits for EDM operations, while Sarah conducts audits for Fin, verifying that all parts meet specifications.

Once the day's shipping schedule is finalized, Ashley prepares the necessary paperwork and then passes it to Natalie and Sarah to organize boxes and gaylords for shipment. Bubba and Nancy then complete the banding process, ensuring parts are prepared for delivery to customers.



Through teamwork, quality control, and a commitment to continuous improvement, the Collins EDM and Fin departments help drive operational excellence every day.

Continuous Improvement Plans?

Current projects include redesigning baseplates and tooling, as well as improving the processing of 1380375 large triangle parts to increase efficiency and simplify production.

Later this month, Lawrence and Nathaniel will travel to Belmont Machines in **that state up north** to evaluate a JoeMars EDM against a Belmont. The testing will focus on the high-demand 7002397-32 part, with the goal of improving cycle times and maximizing performance on the newer Belmont machines.

ASK US ANYTHING **Submit a question to leadership.**

CHECK OUR STATS FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

No Reworks in September!

Sales Analysis

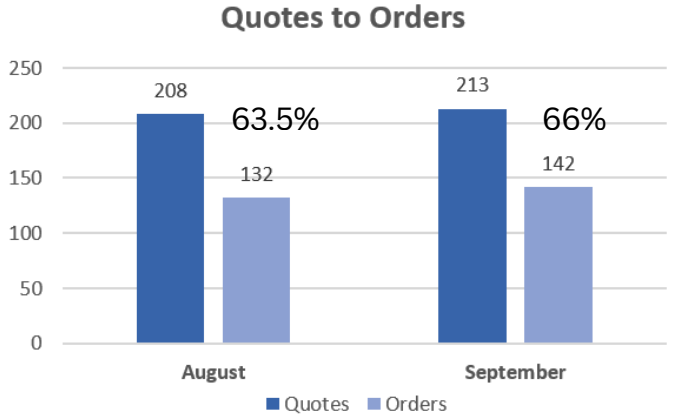
The sales in August of 2026 are slightly down from 2025 and the sales for September are slightly up from 2025. Our trend for sales for the year has us on a path for 5% growth. Most of this growth in sales is due to increased material costs and therefore does not increase our profitability. Our overall profitability is trending to be the same as 2025.

Average Reported Scrap Rate

	August	Sept
EDM	4.18%	4.13%
FIN	3.31%	3.21%
Collins FIN	1.37%	1.73%
Collins EDM	3.95%	4.71%
Total Average	**3.20%**	**3.45%**

RFM Objectives

- 98% of Shipments On-Time or Early
- 60% Quotes to Orders
- 1% or less rework
- 25% or less scrap



KINDNESS SHIRTS

In February of 2026 we started a new campaign called "***Random Acts of Kindness***" in which employees could nominate their coworkers for acts of kindness. Employees who go the extra mile to spread positivity and make our workplace better for everyone, have the opportunity to earn up to ***12*** *unique kindness shirts*.

As of the end of September, **238 Acts of Kindness** have been reported and rewarded! Across all Departments, 79% of employees have received a Kindness T-Shirt. That's a lot of kindness!

We have two employees who have gone above and beyond to spread positivity and always jump in to help their fellow co-workers - **Tonya Purcell and Travis Stanley**. Both have received ***8*** *Kindness T-Shirts*!

Thank you to everyone who performs, recognizes, and celebrates acts of kindness. ***You make a difference everyday!***



IN THE KNOW

Late Arrivals: If you arrive late, *even by just a few minutes*, you **must** speak with your Supervisor about making up missed time. If you do not make arrangements with your supervisor to make up the time, the late arrival will count as an attendance point. Annually, you have up to **six tardies** that you can make up and not be charged a point for.

If your emergency contact, shirt size, or tax information **needs updated**, fill out **here**.

The ***employee handbook will be updated for 2027***. More information will be announced closer to the new year. The handbook is available online **here**.

Upcoming Holidays:

Holiday Schedule 2026	*Holiday*	*Shut Down*	*Shut Down*
Thanksgiving	11/26/26	11/27/26	
Christmas	12/25/26	12/24/26	12/23 @11:30
New Year	1/1/27	12/30/26	12/31/2026

TEST YOUR RFM KNOWLEDGE

Enter your response **here** for a chance to win some RFM swag!

Robinson Fin produces fin used in which industries?

- Hydrogen Power Generation
- Home Decorating
- Sport Fishing
- Industrial Popcorn Makers
- All of the Above

A NOTE OF ADVICE

Build good work habits for the long term; focusing on accuracy and quality over output. It will all come together!

- Lindsey Martino

Be Well at RFM

Pets are fluffy, adorable parts of the family; but, keeping them healthy can sometimes be a tall order. Below are some tips to keep your pets healthy:

- **Use a long-term Prevention Pill** (*fleas, ticks, and heartworm*)
- **Groom Regularly**: use pet-friendly shampoo when bathing and a thin, flea comb.
- **Watch for Reactions**: if your pet is scratching more than usual, if you see a rash or other redness, or if they are lethargic or rapidly losing weight, you may need to take your pet to the **vet.**
- **Treat Plants**: houseplants, landscaping, and grass can harbor fleas or other pests that may bother your pet. Keep an eye out and treat as needed.
- **Regularly Wash Pet Bedding** (*also toys, towels, and other linens*)
- **Hire Professionals as Needed**: if you are dealing with an infestation, you may need to hire a pest control provider. RFM uses **Mauger Exterminating Co**. If you need help, let your Supervisor or Management know.

Upcoming Community Events

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
Oct 8 - Nov 19	Hardin S.T.E.A.M. Club at the YMCA	Hardin County YMCA	Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30pm	$20 - $35
Oct 21	Harvest Bingo Night Hardin County Council on Aging	Kenton Moose #428	5:30 - 7:30pm	$10
Oct 24	Fall Fest in Forest	Village of Forest Market Square	1:00 - 5:00pm	FREE
Oct 24	Parent's Night Out	Hardin County YMCA	5:00 - 8:00pm	*Varies*
Oct 27	Trick of Treat - **Village of McGuffey**	McGuffey	5:30 - 7:30pm	FREE
Oct 28	Trick of Treat - **Village of Dunkirk**	Dunkirk	5:00 - 6:30pm	FREE
Oct 29	Trick of Treat - Blanchard Place Trick or Treat - **Village of Forest** Trick or Treat - **Village of Ada**	Blanchard Place Forest Market Square Ada	5:00 - 6:00pm 6:00 - 7:30pm 5:30 - 7:30pm	FREE
Oct 29	Trunk or Treat Adoption Event	Hardin County Dog Warden's Office	6:00 - 7:00pm	*Varies*
Oct 31	Trick or Treat - **Village of Alger** Trick or Treat - **Belle Center** The Great Neighborhood Candy Hunt - **City of Kenton** Trunk or Treat - Kenton Moose	Alger Belle Center Kenton Kenton Moose #428	5:00 - 7:00pm 6:00 - 7:30pm 3:00 - 5:00pm 11:00 - 1:00pm	FREE
Oct 31	Scare on the Square	Kenton Historic Courthouse District	6:00 - 8:00pm	$15

Community Spread



CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN WITH US

Date: October 30

Time: 11:30 - 12:15 pm

Activities:

- Caramel Apple and Banana Bar
- Trick or Treat Stations
  - One per Department with unique treats
- Pet Costume Contest
  - Picture Board will be in the Breakroom
- Costume Contest - Enter **Here**
  - Please wear a costume that will not interfere with production or create safety hazards.
  - Categories
    - Most Clever
    - Funniest
    - Most Original

Plan to dress up! Even if you do not want to participate in the contest.

Do you have something to include in the next newsletter?
Fill out this form by November 30.

UNITED WAY DONATIONS

The United Way is a community-based non-profit that seeks to address the particular problems within the community they are located in. Their primary initiatives are financial stability, youth education, and health and wellbeing. Money donated locally, stays local. In Hardin County, 98% of donations stay in Hardin County agencies! Learn more about their initiatives at **Hardin County United Way**.

RFM annually donates to the United Way as a silver sponsor for their October Fundraiser Ball, October 17, 2026. If you would like to attend, you can purchase tickets **here**.

As part of the 2026-2027 season, you have the option to contribute to the United Way to make a lasting, positive impact on Hardin County. You can make one-time or periodic donations via check, cash, credit card, or a payroll deduction. If you would like to donate and wish to learn more, please let your Supervisor or member of the Office know. Donation envelopes are available at Shannon's desk.

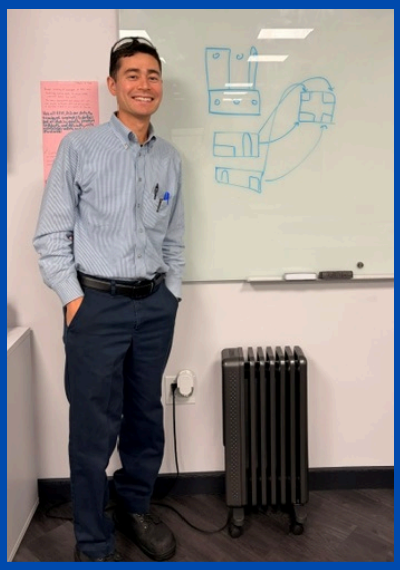
This is a completely optional initiative and will not reflect positively or negatively on your employment at RFM.

Upcoming Events @ RFM

Halloween Festivities - October 30

Thanksgiving Carry-in - November 23

Thanksgiving - 11/26 (Paid), 11/27 (Unpaid)



Doodles with Lawrence

PULSE CHECK

Fill out this quick survey to let us know how you feel at RFM.

RFM Robinson Fin Machines

WORK ANNIVERSARIES & LIFE EVENTS

Upcoming Birthdays

Owen Duncan - October 2
Allyson Blanton - October 2
Natalie Oglesbee - October 5
Brian Harder - October 9
Tyler Buxton - October 10
Doug Cunningham - October 18
Melissa Corwin - October 19
Kathy James - October 19
Anna Miller - October 22
Ashley Tudor - October 23
Lisa Carter - November 1
Nicole Fish - November 2
Mark Haushalter - November 11
Lance Poeppelman - November 17
John Pifer - November 17
Emily Seiler - November 20
Ron Knerr - November 25
Lakota Breece - December 7
Lawrence Miller - December 19
Shannon Barnes - December 20
Kason Barnes - December 22
Deven Bradley - December 23
Olivia Wright - December 29

Upcoming Work Anniversaries

Shawn Hicks - October 4 (4 Years)
Naomi Ridgeway - October 11 (4 Years)
Helena Brown - October 17 (3 Years)
Kassie Bushong - October 28 (2 Years)
Tammy Armstrong - November 6 (3 Years)
Tyler Howard - November 7 (1 Year)
Damon Hord - November 8 (4 Years)
Sandy Woods - November 10 (1 Year)
T Reed - November 12 (**14 Years**)
Roni Blanton - November 25 (2 Years)
John Guzman - December 1 (1 Year)
Theresa Dennis - December 2 (**7 Years**)
Wendy Blum - December 8 (1 Year)
Chad Leonard - December 12 (2 Years)
Emily Seiler - December 16 (1 Year)
Olvia Wright - December 16 (1 Year)
Damian Marling - December 16 (2 Years)
Becca Holland - December 17 (**14 Years**)
Lee Roof - December 26 (**25 Years**)



REMINDER: Please **drive safely** in the parking lot! Maintain safe speeds and be alert for others walking and driving around you.



Finding friendship at work!



A fun engineering fact!

The unique shape of a Pringles Chip is mathematically called a hyperbolic paraboloid. Supercomputers were used to design the chip's aerodynamics so they wouldn't break during high-speed packaging!

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