

DYNATORQUE Brand History

Cameron's current DYNATORQUE™ brand of manual gear operators and accessories began its legacy in 1973 when Westran Corporation, a producer of truck-trailer landing gear systems, manufactured spur gear boxes to lower the legs of trailer landing gear.

Initially, when looking to expand to other potential applications, the industrial valve market seemed fortuitous, but a narrow product line of only spur gears posed a limitation. In 1974, Westran grew through the acquisition of Indico Inc., which provided the newly formed Valve Components division, a line of quarter-turn worm gear operators as well as position indicators, deckstands, small electric operators, and a short line of cast aluminum handwheels. This strategic acquisition helped establish Westran in the valve market. Later, based on customer demand of application-specific products, Westran established an extensive engineering department to design new products and modify the existing line. In an industry where most manual gear manufacturers offered little or no modifications to their offerings, Westran established an expertise in serving a diverse customer base with specially designed products. This helped establish a broader portfolio of solutions, including five additional quarter-turn gearboxes, a short line of bevel gear operators, a complete line of handwheels, and a redesign of the small electric operator line.

In the spring of 1976, Westran acquired the Quaker City electric actuator line, moving the plant from Philadelphia to Grand Rapids, Mich. Later that same year, Westran purchased the 'MB' line of large manual quarter-turn gear operators from Raymond Controls to be used in combination with the newly acquired electric line.

In 1984, Westran sold its Valve Components division to an investor with close ties to the gas transmission industry, where the product line was renamed to the familiar DynaTorque and moved to Sherman Boulevard in Muskegon, Mich. Over the next four years, DynaTorque worked to establish customer relationships with Cameron's WKM® and DEMCO® brands.

With the death of the previous owner in 1988, DynaTorque was sold to Hines Corporation, a holding company of several industrial manufacturers. Shortly after the acquisition, DynaTorque expanded its offering in a number of ways, including:

- The design of a UL/FM-rated unit with a sprinkler system manufacturer (1996)
- A partnership with a major pneumatic actuator OEM for a complete line of worm gear "direct interface" mounting manual overrides (now part of the DYNATORQUE Automated Valve Accessories line)
- Further development of the Automated Valve Accessories line in collaboration with several customers resulting in the flagship D-Stop™ partial-stroke test device (1998) and the D-Lock™ mechanical valve locking device (2005)

In 2005, Dynatorque moved to a new, modern 36,000 sq-ft facility, in Muskegon, Mich. Later in 2008, Cameron acquired DynaTorque and it became a part of the Flow Control business segment. In just three

short years, Cameron had invested in expanding the manufacturing plant to become a 56,000 sq-ft state-of-the-art gear manufacturing facility and in training highly-skilled employees. Currently, DYNATORQUE resides in Cameron's Valves & Measurement business segment alongside best-in-class MAXTORQUE™ high-performance gears and LEDEEN® actuators and control systems, as a part of the Valve Automation team.