



MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR

Ernest F. Garcia

West Coast Metal Finishing

When West Coast Metal Finishing opened for business in 1994, its owner Ernest Garcia did not know what would come out of his new project. Nevertheless, the proud owner began his journey to assemble West Coast into a successful and victorious company.

In the ensuing years faith and perseverance were key to West Coast's success. Since its beginning, the revenue of the company increased by one million and a half more than the previous year.

Ernest Garcia's faith and determination led the company's success despite an arson fire that completely destroyed the shop. With a loan obtained from the Los Angeles Community Development Bank and some help from the city government, West Coast was back in business nine months after the incident.

In the past five years, West Coast Metal Finishing has grown from a small company of seven employees to its current employment of 52 people. As a member of the Minority Business Development Agency, West Coast Metal Finishing has secured a 15-year contract with the City of Los Angeles Department of Sanitation. Most recently, Mayor Hahn nominated West Coast Metal Finishing for the "Inner City 100" as one of the fastest growing companies in Los Angeles.

WCMF sponsors the annual Los Angeles Police Department's youth awareness program to prevent drug abuse among children and inform children of their rights. Ernest Garcia is also an active member of Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard's low-income housing subcommittee.