



## **WNC BUSINESS PROFILE: ELKAMET, INC.**

**Henderson County**

**201 Mills Street | East Flat Rock, NC 28726**

**828.233.4001 | [www.elkamet.com](http://www.elkamet.com)**

**Description of company, business capabilities, and product/services:**

Headquartered in Germany with manufacturing facilities in Germany and the Czech Republic in addition to the AdvantageWest region of NC, Elkamet is a custom rotational molder of plastic tanks and sub-assembly to fit customer needs for immediate assembly into their machines and vehicles. The company is capable of designing, manufacturing and assembling a tank from start to finish.

Elkamet specializes in molding Nylon 6 (Polyamide 6) tanks by using an in-mold polymerization process. This process has certain advantages compared to the commonly used powder rotational molding process. Elkamet's products are utilized for hydraulic oil, fuel, diesel, water and urea (urea is a chemical for emission reduction of diesel engines).

Among Elkamet's customers are Caterpillar, Harley Davidson, BMW and Ford.

**Local leadership:**

Carsten Erkel, Plant Manager

**Number of local employees:**

Approximately 30

**Years in WNC:**

Elkamet established and built its first U.S. manufacturing facility (40,000 sq. ft.) in Henderson County in 2006.

**Recent accomplishments, achievements, new products launched, or other successes:**

Elkamet announced on April 27, 2009 that the company can provide solutions for EPA fuel tank evaporative emission requirements for small off-road (e.g., ATV) and non-road spark-ignition engines and equipment (e.g., chainsaws, lawn tractors, personal watercraft). See press release here: [www.elkamet.de/en/epapress.php](http://www.elkamet.de/en/epapress.php)

**Comments about doing business in WNC and/or working with AdvantageWest:**

"We found an industrial manufacturing-friendly business climate within the WNC region, combined with a highly skilled, very motivated workforce. The high quality of life of the WNC region helps us to attract high potentials to this beautiful mountainous area. We are very proud to name WNC our home in the U.S."

*– Carsten Erkel, Elkamet Plant Manager, Henderson County*

**More information provided by Elkamet, Inc. about its products/services/divisions**

Elkamet operates in four different business units in engineering plastics:

- **Profiles for automotive applications.** We develop and manufacture extruded profiles for external technical applications for cars and utility vehicles. We also supply profiles for technical applications in mechanical engineering, decorative profiles for the furniture industry and covers for illuminated and advertising lettering (CAB edge strips). Through flexible production, precise planning and close coordination with our customers we ensure that individual demands on our products are met. Co-extrusion allows us to combine different materials, for example hard and soft so the profile provides an optimal seal.
- **Profiles for lighting and electrical applications.** We have the manufacturing technology needed to:
  - Extrude profiles and tubes from glass-clear materials
  - Extrude profiles from plastic materials
  - Process high-tech materials with special properties such as high temperature resistance, impact-resistance, rigidity or special surfaces
- **Indoor and outdoor lighting globes.** We develop and produce plastic light globes for all demanding outdoor and indoor applications.

Our manufacturing techniques allow us to produce end products from single pieces of material, completely free from seams. We are constantly developing the technologies used in the forming processes.

We can offer our customers ultimate precision and quality in the fields of rotation molding and combined injection and blow molding. Special coatings give our materials outstanding properties:

- Permanently impact-resistant and non-yellowing with Faktor 10®
- Light reflected and shielded by means of vacuum plating (silvering)
- High quality matt finish
- Coloring according to customer specifications

We draw on our expertise in product requirements in the lighting sector to develop light globes in collaboration with OEMs in Europe and the Far East.

- **Tanks for automotive applications.** The combination of materials and process engineering allows us to offer impressive construction and manufacturing concepts for vessels and tanks with demanding requirements – for example, which come into contact with mineral oil or fuel, are subject to vibrations and high temperatures or are to be painted. We select materials to suit each individual application.

This means that the plastic's property profile is defined by the customer in line with requirements (e.g., temperature, vibration) and we meet these requirements by choosing the suitable material.

***For more information about Elkamet, contact Carsten Erkel, Plant Manager, at 828. 233.4001 or [carsten.erkel@elkamet.com](mailto:carsten.erkel@elkamet.com)***