

Anniversary



For over 70 years, the YELLOW JACKET[®] name has been synonymous with quality products and service in the HVAC/R industry.

It all started back in 1946, when the late Jack Ritchie founded Ritchie Engineering Company in Minneapolis, Minnesota as a fabrication/manufacturer's representative organization. Jack worked hard and in 1949 he created a high-quality charging hose. Jack picked yellow for the color of the hose – which later became the industry standard for refrigerant. The color stuck with Jack and inspired the name YELLOW JACKET[®]. Today, that hose is known as the YELLOW JACKET[®] Charging Hose and remains the best-selling refrigeration recovery hose in the industry for almost 70 years.

"While a lot has changed in the last 70 years, but one thing has remained the same...our philosophy of providing HVAC/R professionals the quality products they need, at a competitive price, with fast delivery and dependable follow-up," said Tom Ritchie, President and CEO.

Since the launch of its first charging hose, YELLOW JACKET® has continued to innovate and expand its line of recovery and service tools. While the brand has sold hundreds of thousands of its namesake hose, YELLOW JACKET® has set the bar within the HVAC/R industry with innovative digital manifolds, tubing tools, vacuum pumps, leak detectors, recovery units, electronic instruments and a line of automotive recovery products.

YELLOW JACKET[®] remains dedicated to its philosophy of creating quality products which are made with exacting standards. Products are carefully assembled by highly-skilled workers at our manufacturing facility, who do everything from producing the smallest coupler to bagging the final packaging. Every shipment is double-checked by weight before shipping out the door.

From its humble beginnings, the YELLOW JACKET[®] brand has continued to grow and innovate while still a family business, owned and operated by Tom & Kristen Ritchie. YELLOW JACKET[®] products are now available worldwide.

As we look towards the future, we recognize the need for sustainable solutions to a myriad of challenges. When it comes to product development, packaging, shipping and manufacturing, we are committed to evaluate all options towards the goal of smaller environmental impact while maintaining our innovative edge.







70 YEARS OF EXPERTISE BUILT INTO EVERY TOOL

YELLOW JACKET® CORPORATE OFFICE

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