



The
INSIDER
Southern Folger Company Newsletter

**EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION
NEW SIGNS
NEW WEBSITE
SEPT. 2025**

Engineering Innovation: 3D Printing at Southern Folger

A key department at Southern Folger is undoubtedly the Engineering Department. Every great design begins with engineering, and with their expertise and skill, they are the first step in bringing a new lock to life. Step into their office and you'll notice an open floor plan designed to encourage collaboration. It's not unusual to find engineers gathered around a desk, solving problems together. And if you look closely, you may catch them prototyping a new lock—often with the help of 3D printing.

3D printing has transformed industries across the globe, from art to advanced prototyping, and here at Southern Folger, it plays a vital role in perfecting our projects. Prototyping allows our engineers to test concepts quickly, refine designs, and create functional tools that support our larger operations. One of our Mechanical Design Engineers, Austin Glerum, explained how central this process has become: 3D printing first began at Southern Folger a couple of decades ago, and since then it has steadily grown into a resource the team relies on daily. “It’s also been a great resource for creating custom jigs and testing tools as well as trialing new design concepts,” Glerum states. “Overall it’s given us a faster, more flexible way to solve problems and refine our designs.”

Saving both time and cost is only part of the benefit. 3D printing has also encouraged innovation that may not have been possible with traditional methods alone. Engineers can now build, test, and modify parts faster than before, giving Southern Folger the agility needed to stay ahead in product development. According to Glerum, “Engineering at Southern Folger started using 3D printing a couple of decades ago... 3D printing has become a valuable tool in our design and development process at Southern Folger.”

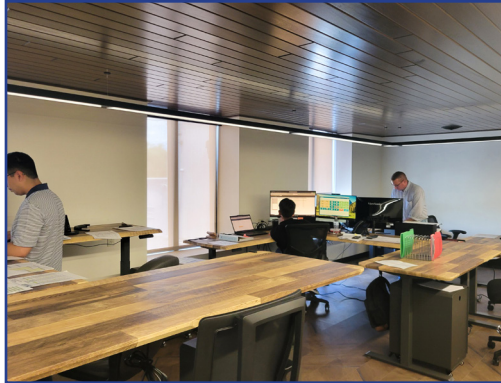
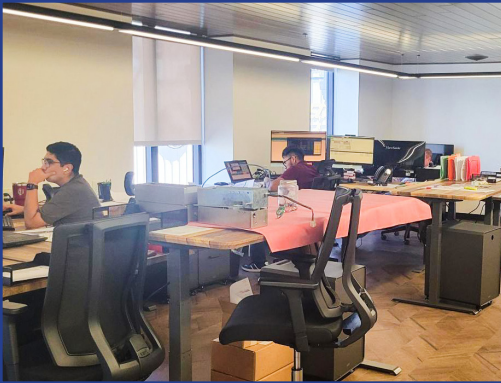
Collaboration has also flourished thanks to this technology. Currently, both engineering and manufacturing are working closely together on a project designed by CNC Programmer Tony. “This project is a great example of how engineering and manufacturing work together—” Glerum said. “Tony developed the



concept, and by using 3D printing we were able to bring his design to life quickly and test it before cutting any metal.” By allowing new ideas to move seamlessly from concept to prototype, 3D printing strengthens partnerships across departments and accelerates innovation.

In January 2024, the Engineering Department further advanced this process with the addition of the Markforged Onyx Pro, a highly precise 3D printer that allows for exceptional accuracy. This upgrade has opened new possibilities, from creating prototypes that more closely match original designs to producing functional fixtures for the machine shop. As Glerum explained, using the Onyx material—a strong and durable composite—has taken their capabilities beyond test pieces, allowing them to deliver solutions that support real-world production needs.

The Engineering Department continues to lead the way in adopting new technologies that shape the future of Southern Folger. With tools like 3D printing, they are designing better locks, developing innovative devices for our customers, and finding faster, more cost-effective ways to move ideas forward. At Southern Folger, 3D printing is not just a helpful addition—it’s a key driver of progress, collaboration, and innovation that further enhances the accuracy of prototypes. The Onyx material not only allows engineers to match their designs more closely but also provides the strength needed to create functional fixtures for the machine shop. This advancement takes 3D printing at Southern Folger beyond test pieces, giving the team new tools to support production directly.



A Safety Tip

Your mind will take the shape of what you frequently hold in thought.

From John Legros Director of Safety

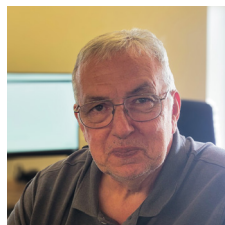
Happy October!

Just because summer has ended and the hydration program has paused doesn't mean you should stop focusing on hydration. Texas stays warm well into the fall, and it's just as important to take care of yourself in the cooler months. For everyone working hard outdoors, remember to check in with yourself—drink water when you need it, and stay cool whenever you can.

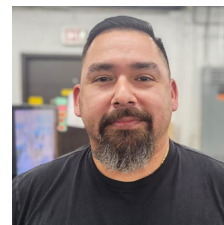
Meet the New Faces of Southern Folger



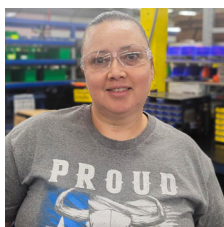
Dylan Halloran
Administration
Project Manager



Grant Tapson
Engineering
Product CAD
Designer



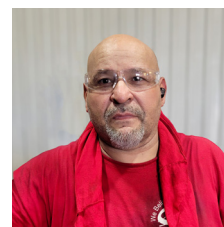
Andres Lupe Jr.
Lock Shop
Lock Shop
Supervisor



Gloria Munoz
Lock Shop
Lock Assembler



Tony Saurman
Machining
CNC
Programmer



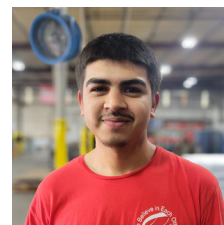
Eugene Talamantez
Paint/Grind
Painter



Sebastian Flores
Punching/Flanging
Press Brake
Operator



Carlos Molina
Saw/Laser
Saw Operator



Mike Vidales Jr.
Warehouse
Warehouse Clerk

Take some time to welcome these new hires to Southern Folger!

Correctional News Visits Southern Folger

On Thursday, September 25, 2025, Southern Folger was honored to host the Correctional News team at our facility. During their visit, they toured our operations, interviewed our President, Don Halloran, and learned more about the work that drives Southern Folger forward.

The Correctional News staff had the opportunity to speak with employees across multiple departments—including the Machine Shop, Lock Shop, Materials, and Engineering—gaining a behind-the-scenes look at how projects move from concept to completion. They saw firsthand how our teams collaborate to fulfill orders, maintain production excellence, and keep the business running smoothly.



Following the tour, the team sat down with Don Halloran to discuss the company's history, the acquisition of RR Brink, and Southern Folger's future. That full interview will be featured in the November edition of Correctional News. For now, we were proud to share our facility, our people, and the strong commitment to quality that defines Southern Folger.



A Word From our President

Innovation & Continuous Improvement

At Southern Folger, innovation isn't just a department—it's part of who we are. Over the past months, we've made significant enhancements to our Lockshop, Jailshop, and Machine Shop, ensuring our teams have the tools, space, and technology to work more efficiently than ever.

These improvements are already paying off, allowing us to deliver products with even greater precision and consistency.

We've also invested in renovating our office building, creating a more modern and collaborative environment for our staff. The new company signage is just the beginning; more updates are to come. These updates reflect our commitment to continuous improvement, not just in what we produce, but in how we work together as a team.

Looking ahead, we're excited to share that a brand-new smart lock—Obsero— will be unveiled later this year. It represents a bold step forward in innovation, and we can't wait to show you what's next.

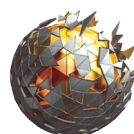
Thank you all for embracing change and pushing us forward. Together, we're building a future where quality, innovation, and customer trust remain at the heart of everything we do.

Don Halloran - President, Southern Folger Detention Equipment Company



Southern Folger
Detention Equipment Company Founded 1897

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