



We deliver quality products, fabricated with materials made only in the U.S.A. All compounds meet ASTM specifications. And there's no use of lowest-cost import products, designed to meet minimum specs... so fear not!



[Quality Materials](#)

I lead an experienced team of craftsmen that now boasts nearly **150** years of combined experience.

We have one simple goal: Be the number-one supplier of specialized rubber parts and components.

Nothing more, nothing less and nothing scary about that.

“RK RUBBER – the go-to firm”



Dell Gufknecht, General Manager

[Capabilities and Expertise](#)

CASE STUDY
Robot Shrouds for Foundry Industry

At RK Rubber, we work collaboratively with our customers to develop creative, out-of-the-box solutions in order to protect their equipment while operating in extreme environments. This is especially true for the foundry industry where we designed, tested, and manufactured shroud covers for our customer's robotic stations for their customer's robotic stations. The robots were continuously subjected to extreme heat, sand, and water ejections. Each robot system ranged from \$50,000 to \$80,000 in cost. The original protective covers consistently failed, causing expensive equipment damage and ongoing maintenance that resulted in significant downtime. While several other rubber vendors were contacted, none of them were able to offer an effective solution.

Working directly with staff at their Wisconsin foundry, our initial prototype consisted of a blue tarp and duct tape that helped us test and determine the shroud's required shape. The idea was to protect the robots while they were suspended from the ceiling. Utilizing gravity, the prototype shroud draped underneath the robot and space created between the robot and shroud allowed the unit to continue operations unhindered while shielded from the elements. The initial tests were a resounding success and ultimately helped us determine the shroud's final shape and position. For the shroud's material, we selected pure gum rubber with a smooth finish, well-known for its abrasion resistance. Using our longitudinal splicing process, we fabricated shroud covers that featured dimensions of 8' high and 48" in diameter. Each shroud was produced in-house using our state-of-the-art latex, vulcanizer, and groutmat installer.

From initial concept design and testing to final manufacturing, our team was able to develop a prototype cover within 3 weeks. We prevented, and in most cases eliminated, premature failure that had occurred while each robot performed its duty along the production line. Our customer was impressed by our creative thinking and quickly expanded the use of our shrouds in each of their foundry locations. They now order up to 40 shrouds per year and we continue to help them develop ways to protect other equipment, maintain production efficiency, and improve their bottom line.

WITH A CUSTOM FABRICATED SHROUD FROM RK RUBBER, YOU TOO CAN PRACTICE "SAFE ROBOTING!"

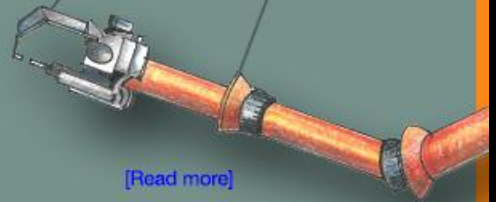
RK RUBBER & SILICONE FABRICATING EST. 1998

RK = SOLUTIONS

PO Box 111 53209 Milwaukee, WI 53209 Fax: 800-747-9197 rk@rk-rubber.com

Protecting hundreds of thousands of dollars in robot assets...

...that could be a scary proposition if you choose the wrong fabricator.



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EXPERIENCE = SOLUTIONS



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