



Rifton Equipment  
103 Woodcrest Drive  
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## Case Study - McMullin Manufacturing collaborates with Rifton Equipment

**Rifton Equipment** - Rifton designs and manufactures adaptive products for children and adults with special needs. These products facilitate independent mobility, positioning for activity, and hygiene. Design input is meticulously collected from users, caregivers, and clinicians all over the world. Rifton has multiple manufacturing plants located in New York and Pennsylvania, and their products are sold on the global market.

**McMullin Manufacturing** – McMullin is a small family-owned metal fabricator located in Brookfield, Connecticut. McMullin was originally chosen as a source for Rifton based on their ability to provide quality production parts at fair prices, outstanding customer service, proximity to Rifton, and their ability to collaborate with multiple product design teams. McMullin has been a trusted supplier and business partner for Rifton since 1997.

**Case Study** - The [Rifton Activity Chair](#) is a positioning chair intended for classroom and home use, enabling functional sitting skills while actively participating in lessons, tasks, and routines. The Activity Chair includes a wide variety of features and accessories to accommodate the needs of even the most involved users. It promotes the idea of active sitting for education and engagement rather than passive sitting which can lead to a host of medical problems. A functional sitting position means that clients can actively use and develop their own core muscles and improve their own postural motor skills, allowing the caregiver to reduce accessory support over time.

Successful designs, in general, involve early design collaboration, custom solutions, quick-response prototyping, tooling, testing, and production manufacturing, with the overall goal being to shorten the cycle from launch to production.

After completion of the design project, Sam Durgin, the Design Team Leader, had this to say:

*Our partnership with McMullin was critical for the success of the Rifton Activity Chair. Our design required forty-two new stampings in a relatively short period of time. Some parts were heavy wall with critical geometry. Close cooperation and input to optimize each part and the tooling required was key in meeting our product launch date for the Activity Chair. McMullin bent over backwards to make this all happen, sometimes even hand delivering pilot run parts.*

**Conclusion** - Through the collaborative efforts of Rifton and McMullin the Rifton Activity Chair was designed and brought to market, and now positively impacts the lives of thousands of people with special needs.