Bought first Irvington-Moore dry kiln in 1964.

“We just doubled the size of our mill operations with the help of two all-aluminum Irvington-Moore dry kilns.”

With a plant capacity of more than 16 million board-feet per year, Mann & Parker is one of the nation's largest independent distributors of forest products, serving more than 1,600 customers in the U.S. and overseas. The firm specializes in domestic and foreign hardwood lumber, both through wholesale distribution and direct mill shipments.

Founded in 1902 by Stephen Mann and Frank Parker, the company's offices were completely destroyed in the 1904 Baltimore fire. After rebuilding, both founders passed away within six months of one another in 1952.

The Mann & Parker Lumber company was purchased by Robert R. Bushman in 1956 and was destroyed by a fire on New Year's Eve of 1969. In the early 1970s, Mr. Bushman moved Mann & Parker from Maryland to New Freedom, PA, and the firm has been under his ownership and control for 32 years.

“I bought my first Irvington-Moore dry kiln in 1964. Twenty-four years later, I'm still satisfied.”

“I started operating Irvington-Moore dry kilns in 1952, so when I went to buy my own, I contacted Irvington-Moore first,” says Mr. Bushman.

“We bought and erected our first Irvington-Moore dry kiln—a prefabricated unit—in Cockeysville, MD in 1964. We took it down and reassembled it in New Freedom in 1974. After 10 years of operation in Maryland and 14 years here, it's still basically in A-1 shape and has never needed an overhaul.”

New Irvington-Moore all-aluminum kilns dry lumber much faster

I was so satisfied with my first Irvington-Moore dry kiln that we bought two more,” explains Bob.

“The new kilns are all-aluminum. With oak, especially, there's a lot of acid. And it just eats away steel. Irvington-
Moore's all-aluminum fabrication increases the life of the dry kiln.

"The new Irvington-Moore kilns are extremely efficient," adds Greg Lutter, operations manager. "Our drying time on four-quarter oak is about 9-10 days. On poplar, 4 days. On mixed species, 7 days—much faster with better quality and product."

"A better product in less time."

"Irvington-Moore offers us superior service, dependability of the product, and the technical knowledge of how a kiln should operate for maximum efficiency," Greg continued. "They're getting the most out of the horsepower, fans, and drive mechanisms. We expect to see years and years of trouble-free operation due to the engineering of the kiln and the corrosion-resistant aluminum construction.

"We've found that with a sound, tight piece of equipment—one you can depend on as far as accuracy and control—you'll get a better product in less time. And that's what we get with Irvington-Moore."

"Irvington-Moore helps us serve our customers better and faster."

"I am a long-time customer of Irvington-Moore," says Bob. "When we originally built this facility, and, more recently, when we increased the size of our kiln operations, we did so with Irvington-Moore equipment: Our pre-drier, dry kilns, and automatic handling equipment is mostly Irvington-Moore.

"At New Freedom, we can store over 4 million board feet and can kiln-dry 10 million feet annually. Lumber wholesaling and distribution today has become a service business; Irvington-Moore equipment helps us serve our customers better and faster."

For more information on Irvington-Moore pre-driers, dry kilns, and lumber handling equipment, call (904) 354-2301 today.
"By going with Irvington-Moore's rough mill line, we are able to get by with much less equipment, requiring only eight operators instead of 21. That's a big payback."

Irvington-Moore provided Stow & Davis with a complete rough mill line and computer-controlled material handling system.

Bob Dunn, left, Senior Manufacturing Engineer, with Bruce Dyksen, Rough Mill Supervisor.

"Based on price, quality, service, and reliability, we went with Irvington-Moore."

"The Grand Rapids furniture industry is undergoing a period of revitalization. Stow & Davis, in business since 1880, is a leading manufacturer of executive wood office furniture. Our rough mill cuts a variety of hard woods including mahogany, oak, maple, and walnut, all of which go to our Fabrication Area.

An integrated systems solution from Irvington-Moore

"Irvington-Moore provided us with a complete rough mill line and material handling system—with computer controls.

"The line includes in-feed equipment, one surfacer, two cut-offs, a dual-gate single filer, an edging saw, a single line sorter, five rip saws, a scrap system, a salvage system, all linked by an integrated material handling system that automates many of the mill operations previously done by hand."

"Before approving Irvington-Moore's proposal, we looked into
what we had been running and projected into the 1991 figures. We
would have needed eight bandsaws, two surfacerers, three cut-off saws,
and 21 operators. By going with Irvington-Moore, we are able to get
by with much less new equipment, requiring only eight operators
instead of 21. That's a big payback."

Why Stow & Davis chose Irvington-Moore

Bob's analysis of Stow & Davis's requirements included a point-
by-point comparison of system components and their costs, an in-
depth study of the capabilities of each vendor, and an analysis of the
equipment costs and manpower

Why upgrading the rough mill made sense for Stow & Davis

"We considered purchasing dimension stock to handle our
growing volume, but we didn't want
to be at the mercy of the pricing,
quality, and delivery times of outside
suppliers. With the new Irvington-
Moore system, we have the
flexibility to respond quickly to
rush orders and changes. It also
eliminates worries about supplier
errors, damaged parts, warped ages,
and shortages.

"For example, if you need just
one or two replacements for parts
that get scraped in production, an
outside supplier is not going to stop
and restart a machine just so you
can get those one or two pieces
and make your schedule. But
now getting a part or two for
replacements, hot mock-ups, or
add-ons to an order is no longer
a problem."

"They made me
very comfortable"

"Service was one of the main
reasons we went with Irvington-
Moore. Their willingness to send
someone here before and during
start-up made me and our people
very comfortable with the new
system. We also like the way they
can perform remote system
diagnostics via modem from their
headquarters.

"Before buying this system I
visited three other companies using
Irvington-Moore rough mill systems
and talked with several others by
phone. During that time I didn't hear
a single negative remark.

"Since its installation, the system
has given us no major problems and
has helped our rough mill increase
productivity. Reason: Automation
speeds up processing. Our new
facility is running 5,000 board feet
per shift with 8 operators vs. our
older mill which ran 2,200 board
feet per shift with the same number
of operators."

For more information on
Irvington-Moore's integrated rough
mill systems, call or write Irvington-
Moore, Deal Systems, today.