PRODUCT GLOSSARY

Spin Cast – Domestic Manufacturing:

- Great all-around process – low volume to high volume
- Great for rush orders and tight deadlines
- Good reproduction of details
- Used for all sizes of products – lapel pins up to large plaques
- Uses rubber moulds thus eliminating the set up fees associated with die-striking and die-casting
- Two or three-dimensional products can be created at very affordable prices even in low quantities.
- Casting is done in a zinc to minimize cost, or in Fine Pewter to provide a high-end product suited to 'Recognition and Award' programs, as well as 'Costume Jewelry' industry.
- PMS color matching is available, and quick turnarounds are common.
- Since a rubber mould is used, tight tolerances are a little more difficult to achieve
- Products can be finished in a variety of plating and color options

Die-Casting – Offshore Manufacturing:

- Rather than using a rubber mould (like spin casting), die-casting uses a metal mould
- The creation of a metal mould typically involves a set-up charge
- Die-casting can be a good choice for higher volume production
- More difficult to do rush orders or meet tight deadlines
- More precise dimensions of finished products
- Products can be finished in a variety of plating and color options

Die Striking – Offshore Manufacturing:

- Similar to the way minted coins are made – a hardened steel die strikes a softer metal, perhaps brass or copper
- High quality finish, suited to "Special Events" where the cost of the steel die and set-ups can be justified.
- Can typically show finer detail than other processes
- The creation of a metal die typically involves a set-up charge
- Die-striking can be a good choice for higher volume production
- More difficult to do rush orders or meet tight deadlines
- More precise dimensions of finished products
- Products can be finished in a variety of plating and color options

	Spin Cast	Die-Cast	Die-Struck
Low Volume	Y	N	N
High Volume	Y	Y	Y
2D / 3D	Y	Y	Y
Rush Orders	Y	N	N
Color Available	Y	Y	Y
Price	Good at all volumes	Good at higher volume	Good at higher volume
Copy Change	Y	N	N
Multiple Finishes	Y	Maybe	Maybe

PRODUCT GLOSSARY

Spin Cast Lapel Pins – Domestic Manufacturing:

- Allows for low volumes – as low as 50 pieces, yet still a good choice at high volumes
- Rubber mould is used to reduce cost
- Rush orders are possible
- Color can be added

Hard Enamel / Cloisonné Lapel Pins – Offshore Manufacturing:

- High-end die-struck process allows for fine details
- Color areas are filled with special colors containing glass particles which are hard baked using an open flame
- These pins always have a smooth, flat, hard surface
- The best alternative for a customer looking for high quality, without paying precious metal prices.
- * Cloisonné "PLUS+", a process similar to "Cloisonné", allows PMS color matching, so you get the highest quality and your choice of colors!

Soft Enamel Lapel Pins – Offshore Manufacturing:

- Similar to "Hard-Enamel", other than the colors used are standard epoxy and are allowed to dry and harden naturally – resulting in lower cost than Hard Enamel
- This process does however permit the customer to color-match using the Pantone Matching System (PMS), and is normally less expensive than hard enamel.

Die Struck / Polish Lapel Pins – Offshore Manufacturing:

- This process starts in similar fashion to "Hard-Enamel", but is usually a term used to define items without any epoxy colors added.
- It calls for a little more attention in the striking process, as most pins in this category have large areas to be sandblasted and carefully hand polished.

Offset Printed Lapel Pins – Offshore Manufacturing:

- For complicated color and shading, the design is usually created using offset printing and process colors.
- This allows high quality reproduction of complicated originals in high-end magazine quality of printing.
- For durability, the design is normally protected with a clear epoxy dome.

Screen Print Lapel Pins – Offshore Manufacturing:

- For simpler, multi-colored designs, where you do not wish to see the colors separated by fine metal borders, the "screen" printed process is ideal.
- Using this process allows specific color-matching while providing the fine detail and close color registration quite often required to reproduce many corporate logos.
- A clear epoxy dome is sometimes applied for additional durability.