

## 40 Years Ago in *MetalForming*

The 1967 Higgins Redesign Award, presented by the American Metal Stamping Association (the forerunner of PMA) at its first annual recognition dinner, recognized the redesign of a casting to a stamping by Paul Faykosh, methods engineer at Midwest Stamping and Manufacturing Co., Bowling Green, OH. The casting, a steering-column mounting bracket for Ford's military version of the Jeep, required extensive machining as well as two difficult slotting operations and a drill-and-tap operation to provide for clamping. Due to production difficulties, the casting (left) could not be supplied in numbers to meet Ford's production schedule.



Two separate stampings comprised the redesigned part, with clamping pressure provided via a 0.090-in. offset on the front half of the top and bottom stamping after the two were welded together (right). Clamping occurred when the part was bolted to the Jeep firewall. As a result of the redesign, Ford was guaranteed a timely component supply and the component itself cost 50-percent less, allowing tool amortization over 10,000 pieces. In addition, the redesign brought improved clamping with a 20-percent reduction in time required for securing the steering column support.