

St. Louis Business Journal - March 31, 2006

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ST. LOUIS **BUSINESS** JOURNAL

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## Former American Power Conversion employee sentenced for embezzlement

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A former senior buyer and planner for [American Power Conversion](#) was sentenced to 27 months in prison and ordered to pay \$987,486 in restitution for embezzlement from the company.

Mitchell Laramore, 27, formerly of St. Charles, Mo., now residing in Mexico, Mo., created two phony businesses, Innovative Machine & Design and American Metal Fabricators & Designs, so that he could submit purchase orders and false invoices to St. Louis-based American Power Conversion for goods and services, U.S. Attorney Catherine Hanaway said in a release Friday.

As part of his sentence, Laramore also will be required to forfeit the equity in his former residence in St. Charles, vehicles, jewelry and other luxury items obtained with the stolen money as part of the restitution to the victims of the fraud, according to the release.

Once American Power Conversion approved the invoices and issued checks, Laramore accessed the company's computerized system and inflated the amounts of the checks, which he then endorsed and deposited into his accounts., the U.S. attorney said. Between January 2002 to July 2005, Laramore embezzled about \$987,486.

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