



Mark Kramer



Rick Siberine



Mark Russell



Andy Hinsley



Paul Theveny



Jeff Bostic

Mark W. Kramer, president and CEO of **Laird Plastics**, has been elected Chairman of the Board of the National Association of Wholesaler Distributors at the association's summit and annual meeting held in Washington, D.C. on February 1, 2012. The NAW is a trade association representing more than 100 industry line of trade associations (including the IAPD), more than 40,000 companies and 5 million workers in the United States. These companies represent almost US\$4 trillion dollars' worth of gross domestic product. The association engages in training on many topics of interest to distributors, represents the industry in Washington on legislative and regulatory matters of interest and provides beneficial services to member companies through strategic alliances in such areas as benefits, package shipping and credit evaluation and reporting. The association is located at 1325 G Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005 with more information available at www.naw.org.

Asahi/America, Inc. welcomes **Rick Siberine** as business development manager for environmental piping products. Siberine will have national sales responsibilities for dual wall piping products and assist in sales and specification for thermoplastics fluid flow products. Siberine is a graduate of Stockton State University with a BS in marketing. Throughout the 1980s, he was a field salesperson for a national distributor, ultimately becoming branch manager. During the 1990s, he owned and operated a manufacturers' representative firm and, most recently, was employed by a national manufacturer of metallic and thermoplastic industrial products. Siberine can be reached at rsiberine@asahi-america.com or (781) 333-9883.

Atlas Fibre has hired **Mark Russell** as Western regional sales manager position covering California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Montana and western Canada. "Mark Russell has a unique combination of plastics manufacturer and end user experience which ideally suits Atlas Fibre's core capabilities," said Mark Mush, national sales manager. "With prior experience at Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products, Parker Hannifin and Applied Materials, Mark will easily interact with our customer base." Atlas Fibre is a national

supplier of thermosets such as FR4/G-10, G-11, G-9, and phenolic rod, sheet and tube primarily to the distribution market. Atlas Fibre also supplies its distribution customers finished machined parts manufactured out of plastic and metal. Atlas Fibre is based in Skokie, IL, USA.

KYDEX, LLC announces **Andy Hinsley** as the newest member to join its international sales force, effective February 2, 2012. Hinsley brings extensive experience in business development and customer service and technical acumen to the organization as proven by his success in growing companies and delighting customers in the UK plastics industry. Ronn Cort, international business manager for KYDEX says, "We're particularly impressed with Andy's proven ability to introduce products into new markets rapidly and effectively, while building enthusiasm for them. He's got a knack for understanding and executing on long-term strategic objectives while managing the short-term." Hinsley will be serving KYDEX customers in the United Kingdom, Austria, Benelux, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Nytec Plastics, Ltd. has promoted **Paul Theveny** to Western regional manager, responsible for sales management in 11 states and four Canadian provinces. Theveny was previously district manager, Southwest territory. "Paul has been a proven performer as a district manager with Nytec for over seven years and in his new role he brings his expertise in OEM specification work and distributor new business development into an even larger arena," states Craig Hampton, vice president, sales & marketing. Additionally, Nytec Plastics has appointed **Three-Four Solutions** of Seattle, WA as their representatives for the Pacific Northwest. Nytec will be represented by **Jeff Bostic**, **Larry Widman** and **Mark Brophy**. According to Hampton, "Jeff and the group at Three-Four Solutions bring a level of professionalism and plastics distribution knowledge that is extremely well respected in the industry." Nytec Plastics, Ltd. produces engineered plastics stock shapes and operates facilities in Woodhaven, NY; Bensalem, PA; West Palm Beach, FL; Elk Grove Village, IL; Whittier, CA and Fachbach, Germany.



Wim De Vos



Lisa Hadden



Justin Raiford



Danny Jensen



Robert Schuster



Ken Zich

The **Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE)** has appointed **Willem (Wim) De Vos** as its new chief executive officer. He succeeds Susan Oderwald, who left SPE in December. "In our worldwide search for a new chief executive officer, we were delighted to find in Wim a 20-year veteran of the plastics industry who is already active in and understands our society, has a truly global perspective, and brings outstanding management experience at a time when SPE is focused on growth," said Russell Broome, SPE's 2011-2012 President. "His expertise in extending business activities into emerging markets and his global network in the plastics industry will be of enormous value in carrying out SPE's mission of strategic growth." De Vos comes to SPE after serving as CEO of the Vitalo Group, a global supplier of plastic packaging and thermoformed products. Previously he managed compounding and processing units of Recticel, an international producer of polyurethane automotive components. He entered the industry in 1991 with technical and sales positions at Eurocompound, a supplier to the textile and automotive industries. De Vos most recently served as chair-elect of the European Thermoforming Division. He holds an engineering degree in polymer chemistry from Industriële Hogeschool CTL in Gent, Belgium, and an executive MBA from the Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School.

Redwood Plastics, a Member of Prisma Plastics International Inc. is proud to introduce five new members to their team. **Lisa Hadden** has joined the inside sales team at their Atlanta branch operation. **Justin Raiford** is their new fabricator in Atlanta, GA. **Danny Jensen** has joined their outside sales team in Prince George, B.C., Canada. **Robert Schuster** is their new technical inside sales and marketing associate in Langley, B.C., Canada, and **Ken Zich** has joined their new branch in Saskatoon, S.K., Canada, as inside sales. Redwood Plastics produces high quality plastic components as well as sheet, rod and tube in many plastic varieties.

Harrington Industrial Plastics has acquired ProTec Construction Services & Supply, a supplier of high purity and industrial piping systems in Texas.

"Harrington's commitment to excellence and growth has never been stronger, which is why we're excited to welcome the knowledgeable and skilled employees of ProTec to the Harrington Family. Our customers nationwide know what makes Harrington their first choice for high purity and corrosive solutions, and we're confident that in Texas we will continue to provide that outstanding level of service and expertise," said Jim Swanson, Harrington's President and CEO. ProTec is a privately held, regional distributor of high purity piping systems with branches in San Antonio, Dallas and Austin, TX, USA. These locations will serve as an anchor point to penetrate markets not locally serviced by Harrington, as well as provide a path for future expansion in the Gulf Coast. The acquisition of ProTec enhances Harrington's existing product offering in the pharmaceutical and high purity markets. Harrington has grown from a regional distributorship to the largest distributor of industrial plastic piping systems in the United States. Harrington began in 1959 with the purpose of serving customers that handle corrosive liquids and has expanded its offerings to include products for customers with high purity and corrosion resistant needs.

Spartech Packaging Technologies' packaging plant in Ripon, WI, USA, was recently awarded a Safe Quality Food (SQF) Certification. SQF certification is internationally recognized and assures food safety is maintained at each link in the food supply chain, from suppliers to service providers to retailers. The Ripon packaging plant received a SQF 2000 Certificate of Registration Level 2 after investing in physical upgrades and/or creating procedures and process control enhancements and implementing employee training. "Consumers today are more knowledgeable, and demand that the food they provide to their families has a high level of safety and quality," said Carol O'Neill, senior vice president of Packaging Technologies. "The SQF certification is a testament to Spartech's commitment to continually delighting our customers with the highest level of quality, value, service and innovative solutions." In addition to the Ripon plant, the Spartech Muncie, IN, USA, facility is also SQF certified. The SQF Program, recognized by the Global

Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), requires a rigorous, credible food safety management system that links primary production, like Ripon's SQF certification for packaging, to food manufacturing, distribution and agent/broker management certification. Administered by the Food Marketing Institute (FMI), the SQF program seeks to sustain continuous improvement in overall food safety and quality.

Bayer MaterialScience LLC has appointed **David Krempels** key account manager, Baycusan® cosmetics ingredients line. He is based in Northern New Jersey, the primary hub of activity in the North American cosmetics industry. In this role, Krempels will drive Bayer polyurethane chemistry into the cosmetics market through managing key global customer relationships and coordinating distribution activities for the Baycusan product line, which includes polyurethane dispersions and polyurea powder raw materials for a variety of cosmetic applications. Baycusan technology has been developed for use in a range of hair care products, as well as cosmetics such as foundation, eye shadow and mascara. Prior to joining Bayer, Krempels served as commercial account manager, Personal Care, for Seppic Inc. In addition to having formulation experience, Krempels has several years' experience selling excipients and actives to multinational customers. Krempels graduated from Rutgers University with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and from New York University's Stern School of Business with a master's degree in business administration. While at NYU he specialized in finance, operations and global business. Krempels is also an active member of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists.

A.L.P. Lighting Components is pleased to announce that **Dawn Hankins** has rejoined the organization as inside sales manager for A.L.P. LexaLite®. This product line includes the Reflexor® Series of prismatic reflectors, the Lindy® family of Post Top refractors and the new Platform Series of LED optical components. Hankins returns to the company after working several years in a similar capacity for East Jordan Iron Works, but is in fact a 15-year veteran of the orga-

nization. In her lighting career, Hankins has held a number of customer support roles and was most recently LexaLite's customer service manager. In her new position, Hankins is responsible for all of the Optical Business Unit pricing and product management. This includes price lists, cost and inventory management, sales support and management of the quotations function.

MultiCam® Inc. has appointed **Rick Burns** graphic designer. He has more than 15 years of experience creating brand value for Fortune 500 companies, advertising agencies and non-profit organizations. "Rick's skills include 3-D design, web development, interactive media, illustration and photography," said John Harris, director of sales and marketing. "He's responsible for designing MultiCam's websites, advertising, print media and collateral materials." After studying art at Maryland Institute in Baltimore, Burns worked as a web and print designer at Radio Shack, Argo Data and EDS. He's managed high-visibility projects such as Byron Nelson Championship advertising and Mary Kay convention presentations. You can reach him by email at rick@multicam.com or call him at (972) 929-4070, ext. 2008.

Howard McCaffrey has been appointed inside sales manager for **Laminations, Inc.**, a producer of olefin, fluoropolymer and other high performance sheet products based in northeastern Pennsylvania. McCaffrey brings more than 20 years' experience in information technology to his new role. For the past three years, he worked with Laminations, Inc.'s operations and commercial teams to establish and implement its new IT system and processes for demand and supply chain management. Previously, he worked as an independent consultant to various companies where he developed similar systems for coordinating incoming sales demand with production capacity, scheduling and inventory. Earlier in his career McCaffrey also served as CIO of a major trade association based in Washington, D.C. In that position he developed business and technology strategies to guide the industry through a shift in distribution models driven by the advent of the public Internet. His appointment is effective immediately.



Dawn Hankins



Rick Burns



Howard McCaffrey



New warehouse space at E & T Plastics

E & T Plastics has added 3,600 square feet of warehousing space to its Blaine, MN, USA facility, increasing its overall size by 20 percent. A nationwide supplier of plastic sheet, rod, tube and film, E & T Plastics opened the Minnesota office in April 2006 to serve customers in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, western Wisconsin, Iowa and nearby Canada. Ten sales and warehouse employees now work at the site. According to Tom Tuckey, branch manager in Minnesota, the expansion allows E & T to stock up to 10 additional container loads of material and provides customers with faster delivery. "We experienced considerable growth here in five short years and basically outgrew this facility," Tuckey said. "Although E & T has been primarily a 'see-through' plastics distributor, we've become much more versatile since coming to Minnesota in order to support the region's large print industry."

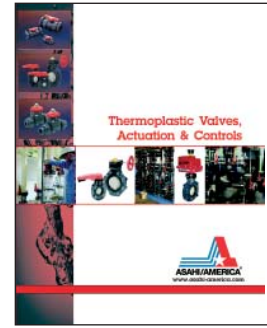
Dr. Zhen Zhu, research and development manager of **Evonik's** Performance Polymers Business Unit, will give a pre-

sentation on Advanced Medical Acrylics at the Polymers in Medical Applications Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, on March 2, 2012. The focus of the presentation, "Advanced Medical Acrylics — Acrylic-based Multipolymer Medical Grade with Antimicrobial Effect," will highlight the need for antimicrobial products, provide an overview of testing methods for microorganisms commonly found in healthcare facilities, address the antimicrobial effect mechanism and discuss the performance details of CYROLITE® Protect. CYROLITE Protect is an acrylic-based multipolymer compound that provides antimicrobial capabilities against a variety of microorganisms commonly found in healthcare facilities. Dr. Zhu received her Ph.D in Polymer Science and Engineering in 1988 from East China University of Science and Technology. She has 14 years' academic experience in polymer structure-property relationship and characterization of different polymers. Her area of expertise within the last 16 years is in new product development from conceptualization to commercialization including idea generation, feasibility assessment, intellectual property analysis, formulation development, design of experiment and scale up.



Professional Plastics' new 50,000 sq. ft. central distribution facility will enable the company to meet growing customer demands and better service their rapid growth in the Northeast region territory of North America.

Professional Plastics Inc.'s branch location in Buffalo, NY, USA, has moved to a larger distribution facility. The new address is 145 Mid County Drive, Orchard Park, NY 14127 USA; phone (800) 966-7767, (716) 686-9300, fax (716) 686-9310. The new facility provides the opportunity for growth and expansion in the northeast.



The new catalog from Asahi/America, Inc.

Asahi/America, Inc.'s new 188-page Thermoplastic Valves and Actuation Catalog presents a technical overview of the company's thermoplastic valves and actuators. The full-color catalog highlights the advantages of using thermoplastic valves and actuators in fluid handling systems, including their corrosion-resistant properties. The catalog features specifications for thermoplastic valves and pneumatic and electric actuators. Included in the updated version of this catalog are Asahi/America's newest offerings including the Type 57IL butterfly valve, the PVC wafer check valve, the Series 10 electric actuator, and PST 202 and 201 pneumatic positioners. To request a printed copy, contact Asahi/America's Customer Service Department at (781) 321-5409, or visit www.asahi-america.com to download a PDF copy.

Primex Plastics Corporation and **A. Schulman** sponsored a TPO Technical Seminar on November 9th at MAAC Machinery in Chicago. The conference was designed as a way to bring three disciplines together under one roof to illustrate the value of TPO. Attendees were presented with information about the latest innovations in resin, sheet and thermoforming equipment and saw forming demonstrations. "We were extremely excited about the turnout for this event and impressed by the number of customers willing to make the journey. We had clients from all over the United States as well as from England, Australia and New Zealand. It was a clear indication that our customers look to Primex to keep them informed in regards to the latest innovations in extrusion, material and processing," said Paul Uphaus, commercial development manager for Primex Plastics Corporation. Uphaus gave an overview of the latest TPO products while Fred Galle, business manager overseeing the Polytrope STR

product line for A. Schulman, presented a comprehensive technical overview of material technology complete with application performance data. The forming demonstration focused on two of the most prominent grades, which included a high gloss TPO with excellent scratch and mar resistance and distinction of image as well as a scratch whitening resistant cap designed primarily for interior cab applications. MAAC Machinery gave an overview of their latest innovations and newest thermoforming equipment technology.

Quadrant EEP USA Inc. has connected two manufacturing buildings in Scranton, PA, USA with a 75,000 square foot addition. The multimillion dollar project supports Quadrant's production of ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene sheet. The expansion is designed to meet a growing demand for UHMW-PE products. According to Quadrant, green technology is a feature of the expansion: The additional capacity uses less natural gas and electricity and virtually eliminates the need for the use of oils that require disposal. The Scranton operations, including a distribution center, mainly make polyolefin materials and shapes for medical equipment, food processing, packaging equipment, semiconductor equipment and other industrial applications. Other North American facilities and affiliates also make nylon, acetal and high-temperature materials and shapes.

tion on compression molded versions of TECAPEEK®, TECATRON® PPS and TECASINT® PI and PAI resins as well as several other high performance engineering base polymers. Data sheets for all these formulations are available on the site for easy reference and downloading. The new website also contains information on size capabilities and machining guidelines for these high performance materials. In addition to the detailed product information, the website offers a quick overview of typical applications for the compression molded formulations and an easy to use contact form. Links are provided to other domestic and global Ensinger business units.

Leister Process Technologies has transformed from a sole proprietorship to a holding structure consisting of three independent, limited companies, with Leister AG as the holding company. Since its founding in 1949, Leister Process Technologies operated in the legal form of a sole proprietorship. Growth in the

past few decades, diversification into additional business areas and the formation of companies in the United States, Germany, China and Japan spurred the following structural changes. Leister AG will act as the holding company, responsible for the management and control of the entire Leister group. Leister Technologies AG will take over well-known business in the areas of plastic welding, hot air industrial processes and laser systems. Axetris AG will replace the Axetris business unit, converting it into an independent company that will remain active in the areas of gas sensors and micro optics. All existing national affiliates — including Leister USA — will remain in operation untouched. "This new corporate structure allows us to sharpen our focus in key areas, and successfully develop the future of all Leister activities," said Christiane Leister, chief executive officer, Leister AG. Existing company managers will lead newly established companies, with all properties remaining under the overall direction of Ms. Leister.



The new website from Ensinger Special Polymers, Inc. at www.ensingerspi.com

Ensinger Special Polymers, Inc. has developed a new website to promote its compression molded materials more efficiently. The hundreds of compression molded formulations offered are an extension of Ensinger Inc.'s extruded high performance stock shapes product line. The site provides informa-