

Prent and GOEX Partnership Promotes Sustainability

Prent's sister company GOEX Corporation partners with its customers to implement closed-loop material and packaging return programs where specifications and circularity align. These re-use programs:

- Minimize reliance on raw materials
- Reduce the amount of virgin material required to produce packaging
- Promote circularity in the supply chain
- Decrease the collective carbon footprint and impact on natural resources

GOEX's RE•COVER™ program has the unique ability to recover closed-loop scrap from customers and process it back into suitable applications. As part of its RE•COVER family of products, GOEX offers co-extruded, custom quality plastic sheet with up to 100% recycled post-industrial content. These environmentally friendly material options maintain the critical quality characteristics required for customers' applications.

Prent is one of many companies that participates in GOEX's closed-loop recycling program. "GOEX purchases all of Prent's scrap for use in non-medical recycled applications," says GOEX Senior VP of Operations Michael Pregont. "The goal is to be able to hold lot traceability [which is the trackable history of a manufactured product through every stage of its creation to its distribution] on the material throughout the entire process and expand the amount of recyclable scrap used across all markets."

"This is nothing new to Prent as Janesville, Flagstaff, and Baja have been active with this program for many years, says Prent Senior VP of Sales Tom Schaffner. "As Prent's healthcare customers are adopting initiatives to recover, reuse, and recycle both plastic products and packaging, it is critical that we are on the forefront and play a key role."

The challenge is to ensure the product that Prent manufactures conforms to ISO 11607, and meets all the requirements for traceability, especially for recycled materials, according to Schaffner. "We are continuing to work diligently to implement a fully lot traceable program with GOEX, and we will be ready to roll this out in the coming months," he said.

Prent and GOEX corporations continue to make sustainability a priority. "GOEX has a zero-landfill initiative and our RE•COVER program allows customers to be a part of that initiative and find an outlet for their scrap," Pregont said.



Prent Janesville Employees Take Time to Celebrate Working Safely and Build Camaraderie

Below are a few of the employee engagement events over the summer.



Prent makes working safely a priority and enjoys rewarding its employees for doing so. Janesville employees who worked safely this summer attended a Luau cookout in July. Everyone enjoyed the barbecued food, the shaved iced from a local food truck vendor, and the shared fellowship.



On June 10, Prent Janesville employees had a ball at the Beloit Sky Carp baseball game held in the new ABC Supply Stadium in Beloit, Wisconsin. Employees and their families enjoyed gathering together to watch a winning game in the minor league baseball team's inaugural season, along with food, fun, and friendship on a beautiful summer evening.



Connect with Prent on social media or visit:

prent.com

Janesville's School District and Chamber Select Prent for New Employee Tour



On August 16, Prent Headquarters in Janesville, Wisconsin welcomed four busloads of 150 newly hired Janesville School District teachers, support staff, and administrators, as well as local chamber of commerce staff and board members to tour its facility.

Prent was one of four local corporations chosen to provide a cross section of the type of business that takes place in the community, according to Forward Janesville, Inc. VP Dan Cunningham.

"This year, Forward Janesville collaborated with the Janesville School District to provide an immersive experience for new staff who are either new to the area, or have never had an opportunity to tour a local business such as Prent," Cunningham said. "It gave the teachers and staff a chance to learn what these successful businesses do—both locally and globally—and how they do it. This kind of opportunity can help staff connect with the business community and enhance curricula."

Cunningham says Prent is always at the top of the list of companies to engage with as the staff is very accommodating and always has a fantastic presentation for newcomers.



Prent Takes a Proactive Approach to Mitigate Longer Lead Times

Undoubtedly, almost every business and industry around the world has been impacted by supply chain issues stemming from the global pandemic that began in late 2019. According to Prent Senior VP of Manufacturing David Hiller, supply chains are designed to be optimal not robust ... That goes for any industry. "When you have any fluctuation within the supply chain, all businesses will experience some level of disruption. Any demand or supply fluctuation gets amplified through the supply chain and then we have the challenges that all business sectors are facing," he said.

Hiller says Prent is taking a proactive approach to mitigate lead times and be more responsive to customers that includes:

- **Syncing Prent's production schedule with its raw material suppliers.**
- **Reducing batch sizes.** "Prent has the ability to be fluid in our production environment. By reducing those batch sizes, we can provide more customers what they need during any given week or month," says Hiller.
- **Engaging Prent customers to better understand their needs.** "Knowing what our customers need when they need it helps Prent be more responsive," Hiller said.
- **Boosting Prent's output.** Prent's production is greater than any given day prior to the challenges resulting from the pandemic, according to Hiller.

Prent has also increased staffing and materials, according to Prent President Joe Pregont II. "We've added more employees and additional shifts at our Janesville Headquarters and also increased the amount of raw material we have on hand. Our suppliers have increased material as well."

"Additionally, GOEX Corporation is adding a manufacturing and machinery site in Cedar City, Utah to supply Prent Baja and Prent Flagstaff facilities this fall, which will help with business continuity inside the Americas," Pregont said. "Prent is also adding a satellite manufacturing facility in El Paso, Texas in the near future."

According to Pregont, Prent is working with customers to transfer business to top alternative Prent sites that have more open capacity when possible, including Flagstaff, Puerto Rico, and Denmark.

"Because Prent has common thermoforming equipment at all of its global facilities, it gives our customers the flexibility to transfer tooling seamlessly," says Prent Senior VP of Sales Tom Schaffner.

"Prent is focused on improving the situation every week. We are slowly working out of the challenges we are facing," Pregont said. "It is difficult to determine when that will be. We had a record year last year and are starting off at a record pace this fiscal year. We are making it a priority to do our best to mitigate the lead times and meet our customers' needs."

PRENT

Profiles



GET TO KNOW YOUR PRENT REPRESENTATIVE

CHRIS HIGGINS

Prent Flagstaff
Quality Engineer

Chris Higgins has been employed at Prent Flagstaff for over 10 years. He started as an inspector/packer and cross-trained for several positions, including LQA, warehouse associate, and quality inspector/auditor.

Higgins was promoted to Quality Engineer at Prent Flagstaff in February

2020. He currently oversees the QA team, conducts validations, manages customer complaints, handles customer and ISO audits, and keeps the quality management system current.

He was born and raised in Flagstaff and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering at Northern Arizona University in 2019. While in school, Higgins participated in a semester-long facilities internship in the Prent Flagstaff maintenance department under the supervision of the Facility Engineer that helped him gain a better understanding of building and machine maintenance. He also worked at Prent throughout college to pay for his schooling.

Prior to Prent, he worked for a few years at a local plant nursery.

Higgins likes the dynamic nature of manufacturing and being challenged. He says it is rewarding to find a more efficient method in a process to help save everyone time and energy.

In his free time, Higgins likes to garden, hike with his husband, attend Oktoberfest in Salt Lake City, enjoy Flagstaff's four seasons, and spend time together with friends and family.

Something you may not know about Higgins is that he has had synesthesia all his life—he sees each letter and number as a distinct color. This helps him memorize data quickly and easily.



Prent Flagstaff Completes Annual Climb to Conquer Cancer

On August 20, Prent Flagstaff participated in the 2022 Climb to Conquer Cancer, hosted by the American Cancer Society (ACS). This year's course consisted of a 2.5-mile journey up to an elevation of 8,000 feet on the scenic Snow Bowl Road. Then, participants turned around and trekked the 2.5 miles back down to the bottom, which is about 7,400 feet. The annual event is an opportunity for Flagstaff area companies like Prent to support the ACS through employee participation. This year, Prent Flagstaff had just under 30 participants contributing to the overall event fundraising total of \$138,000.

Prent Puerto Rico Holds Annual Employee Meeting

On August 16, Prent Puerto Rico employees attended an all-employee meeting to discuss progress made in the 2022 fiscal year and future plans for progress and success.



Pictured at far left are Michelle Rademacher and Jennifer Hawkins; middle left are Jacob Schoeder, Paul Sanders, Scott Shepherd, and Cory Eggen; above are Marcus Knouse, Mike Sokolik, Thomas Diedrick, Christian Rodriguez, Tyler Evans and Steven Baertschi.

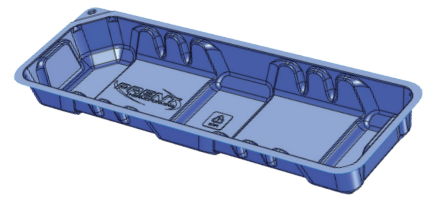
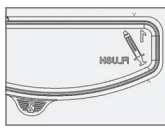
Prent/GOEX Employee Golf Outing was Fun for All

80 Prent Janesville and GOEX employees enjoyed the annual employee golf outing at the Janesville Country Club on August 14. Participants enjoyed a day full of fun and friendly competition with games, contests, hole prizes, and lunch on site. The manufacturing team held onto its first place title for the fourth year in a row!



Prent Costa Rica Employees Show their Mothers Some Love

Prent Costa Rica held a special celebration for Mother's Day which is celebrated in Costa Rica on August 15 as it coincides with the Catholic feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Prent Costa Rica employees' mothers received flowers and enjoyed a lunch, along with the rest of the staff, to commemorate them.



Instructional engraving examples above, and Prent tray with engraved corporate logo and recycling logo at right.

LET'S GET TECHNICAL: Engraving is a Cost-Effective Option for Branding and Instruction

Did you know ... that every day Prent uses its CNC machines to engrave customer tooling capable of producing parts that are instructional, aesthetic, informational, or branded?

Engraving is a cost-effective way to add a corporate logo, multilingual instruction, order of use, sidewall texturing, or graphic, according to Prent VP of Product Development Chris Bladl.

"There is a one-time cost to add engraving into the mold, and then

every part has the information on it thereafter," he said.

Prent designers can suggest ways to highlight a feature or function of the package, and also work with customers who ask for a specific logo or picture they want for more descriptive engravings on a part.

"The engraving is already part of the forming process and the only added time on our end is to put it in the mold initially," Bladl said. "Whether it is 1,000 or one million parts, it

doesn't cost extra to engrave it versus pad printing or another method of including the mark on the part. That is a secondary operation, while this is part of the forming process."

Recycling logos are also engraved. (See above graphic). "The chasing arrow triangle goes into every tray so the end user knows it is recyclable and what stream it should be recycled in," Bladl said.

If you'd like to add engraving to your next job, email sales@prent.com.

FUN FACT: Prent's 2020 AmeriStar award-winning collection clamshell tray had engraved information added to the bottom of the tray to help users identify where each component goes from the dilator to the stopcock off the handle. These engravings helped to improve hospital usability.

Prent Says Farewell to Retiree Brian Ede

On August 5, Brian Ede completed 36 years of service in Prent Janesville's Machine Build Department. Ede was hired in 1986 and worked in many different capacities, including manufacturing floor machine operator, tool room machinist, tool room CNC programmer, tool room lead CNC programmer, and machine build lead CNC programmer.

Ede says he has watched Prent evolve from a company that used aluminum castings for molds and plugs to thermoform parts, to one that uses computer software to program CNC machines to cut molds and plugs from solid blocks of aluminum for its equipment—equipment that was designed and engineered in Janesville for its facilities around the globe.

He says he liked how clean and cool the shop was at the Janesville facility and that his favorite project was always the next new piece of equipment for which they made parts.

Ede says he looks forward to having more time for projects in his workshop during retirement.

Prent China Enhances Capabilities with Long Tray Prototypes for its Medical Device Customers

Early this year, Prent strengthened its production capabilities by adding a P72 class thermoformer at its Shanghai, China facility that can produce trays up to 72 inches (1.8 meters) in length to better serve the local medical market.

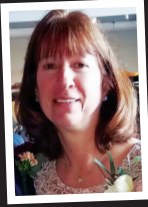
In addition, Prent China recently improved its capability in its prototyping center to fabricate the long renboard prototype sample tooling. This fully supports long tray prototyping at the initial stage of the development process.

"With Prent's mindset of doing it right the first time, the prototyping process is a very important and necessary step prior to finalizing the part design and production tool during the medical tray development," says Prent China Design and Tooling Manager William Wu. "Preparing long sample parts at prototyping has given us the advantage of upfront tray design review as well as the ability to perform fitting tests to verify its function together with our customers," Wu said.

"We can now provide a whole piece of renboard prototype samples to a customer instead of splitting it into multiple pieces that are glued together," says Prent China Senior Design Engineer Bruce Hu. "Customers have been satisfied with the prototype samples which are tidy and professional. It also helps designers to prescreen and review the tray function much more effectively," Hu said.

With this added capability, Prent China further strengthens its position as the leading and preferred thermoforming tray and design solutions provider in the Chinese market.

Q&A with Prent Janesville Retiree Dawn Augenstein



On August 1, Dawn Augenstein retired from Prent after 40 years of employment at its Janesville Headquarters. She shared some of her experiences and memories before her last goodbye:

What was the most unusual or interesting job you have had? I worked on Harding Street, beginning in

1982, packaging glade air fresheners. It was a very smelly job!

What were your roles at Prent over the years? I was a mini-shifter on B and D shift (now called inspector/packer). I was a part-time lead which is now called LQA. My first full-time position was on second shift as a lead. Then I moved to the QA department.

What drew you to Prent originally? And, how has Prent changed since? I liked the part-time, four-hour shifts, five days a week with overtime on Saturday mornings only. Now, Prent has five-hour shifts four days a week with a lot of opportunity for overtime.

How did Prent help you in your career development? Prent gave me the opportunity to learn computer skills and time management, and gave me more confidence. It was fun learning how to use all the different measuring equipment in the QA department and reading blueprints.

What did you find the most challenging at Prent? Changes, with the biggest being the quick tool changes for faster job turnovers.

What did you like most about Prent? I liked that it was family oriented and had flexible time off.

What has been your favorite project at Prent? I enjoyed the challenging jobs as a mini-shifter. I enjoyed working on punches, hot stamps, and solvent sealing.

What have you gained from working at Prent? Friendships, recipes, several skills including increased computer knowledge, and fun memories.

What was your proudest moment at Prent? A couple things come to mind, but I would have to say it was making it to 40 years!

What advice do you have for prospective Prent candidates? Do your best, show up to work every day with an open mind, and watch for opportunities to grow.

What are your plans for retirement? Moving north, seeing the grandkids, motorcycle rides, reading, walks, and volunteer work.

Visit the Prent Booth at Upcoming Trade Shows

» PACK EXPO

October 23-25, 2022
Chicago, IL

» COMPAMED

November 14-17, 2022
Düsseldorf, Germany

» MD&M West 2023

February 7-9, 2023
Anaheim, CA

» MD&M Minneapolis

November 2-3, 2022
Minneapolis, MN

» CMEF Autumn

November 23-26, 2022
Shenzhen, China

For a complete list of trade shows, visit prent.com.

PRENT

People

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Donna Peloquin Janesville

15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Penny Dunigan Janesville

Kevin Fink Janesville

Andria Green Janesville

Kiang Seng Ng Malaysia

Kristie Reppen Janesville

Todd Schwark Janesville

Lois Severance Janesville

Xiuchun Xiong Shanghai

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Chang Cao Shanghai

Antonio Castillo Janesville

Yongjun Chen Shanghai

Shasha Feng Shanghai

Huajun Gao Shanghai

Derek Heisz Janesville

Courtney Lasch Janesville

Yongpen Liu Shanghai

Sue Ma Shanghai

Teresa Mallory Janesville

Cynthia Sowatzki Janesville

Changjiang Sun Shanghai

Jeffrey Tanko Janesville

Shujian Wang Shanghai

Shibin Wang Shanghai

Peter Wilson Janesville

Duoli Xia Shanghai

Hao Xiao Shanghai

Chao Yang Shanghai

Xiaojian Yang Shanghai

5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Cindy Cairns Janesville

Bijay Mahara Chamar Malaysia

Keshab Chaurel Malaysia

Andrew Chrisinger Janesville

Doris Douglas Janesville

Michael Drasch Janesville

Jacob Erickson Janesville

Perry Fischer Janesville

Rischel Foerster Janesville

Tingting Gao Shanghai

Aleksandra Jablonska Denmark

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Engraving is Cost-Effective Option

Prent China Enhances Capabilities

A Proactive Approach to Mitigate Lead Times

Get to Know Prent Flagstaff's Chris Higgins

Prent Welcomes Janesville School District

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2225 Kennedy Road
Janesville, WI 53545

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY *(continued)*

Brittany Knutson	Janesville
Donald Lehr	Janesville
Dipak Magar	Malaysia
Nikki Mccarthy	Janesville
Randall Myren	Janesville
Gopal Napit	Malaysia
Sushan Neupane	Malaysia
Heng Qiaolin	Malaysia
Chengyan Rao	Shanghai
Sushil Shrestha	Malaysia
Rufina Singer	Janesville
Deanna Steube	Janesville
Hemei Sun	Shanghai
Anjan Tamang	Malaysia
Anil Timalcina	Malaysia
Indrajit Yadav	Malaysia
Govind Yadav	Malaysia
Jinglian Zhang	Shanghai
Maotao Zhao	Shanghai
Min Zhou	Shanghai

Prent Malaysia Welcomes Nepalese Workers

Four years have passed since Prent Malaysia has been able to recruit Nepalese workers due to the Malaysian government restrictions on any new applications for foreign workers.

When the Malaysian government lifted the restrictions early this year, Prent Malaysia was able to get its application for 30 Nepalese workers approved.

The first set of employees who arrived on September 1 are all former Prent Malaysia employees and were happy to be able to return to work. Prent Malaysia staff welcomed them with gifts of food and necessities to help them get settled.

A FOND FAREWELL TO THESE PRENT RETIREES

Dawn Augenstein » Janesville Quality Assurance Inspector Auditor

6/23/1982–8/1/2022 Dawn is looking forward to relocating further north and building a new home in the woods. She plans to enjoy the countryside, find an organization where she can volunteer, and not worry about what time it is. *See inside this issue for more about Dawn's 40 years at Prent.*

Jill Fritz » Janesville Senior Estimator

10/31/2011–8/2/2022 Jill is most excited to visit family in Wisconsin, swim and spend time up north, and travel on her own time. Her next big trip will be to visit Italy this September. "Thanks to [Prent CEO] Joe Pregont for the opportunity and the good wine at the Christmas parties," she said.

Brian Ede » Janesville Lead CNC Programmer

2/3/1986–8/5/2022 Brian is looking forward to working on his classic cars, doing projects around the house, and spending more time with his family. *See inside this issue for more about Brian's 36 years at Prent.*

Jack Eden » Janesville Technical Maintenance Supervisor

1/12/2015–8/19/2022 Jack is looking forward to enjoying Wisconsin with his wife including visiting family, wineries, state and local fairs, camping, and fishing for crappies and bluegills.

Rance Whitehead » Flagstaff Machine Operator/Mechanic

2/23/2009–8/1/2022 Rance is looking forward to spending time with his family, reading, and relaxing with a good bottle of whiskey.

