# ISUE NO. 60, 2017

## The Power of Product Integrity

HIGH-PERFORMANCE THERMOFORMED PACKAGING

## Certified Clean Room Manufacturing

Prent Corporation in Janesville, Wisconsin has received ISO Class 8 certification for two additional clean rooms. The newly constructed space was built to accommodate increased growth in the medical packaging market, further showcasing the company's commitment to meet the most critical manufacturing requirements.

Clean room manufacturing is largely fueled by customer demand and heightened compliance focus. Earlier this year, Prent announced the certification of a secondary clean room, which was specifically designed for post-thermoforming operations, project assembly and fulfillment.

"The key to our value is to exceed customer expectations. Our clean room operations exemplify our commitment to producing highperformance packaging for our customers' critical applications," said Mitch Benson, Senior Vice President of Manufacturing Services.

By nature, clean rooms are designed to reduce

the number of contaminants in the environment where products are manufactured. Prent's Class 8 certified clean room design maintains positive air pressure and balance, which is essential in preventing contaminates from infiltrating into the clean room.

Proper gowning is one of the primary safeguards to help prevent contamination in clean room operations. Anyone entering Prent's clean environments is required to follow strict gowning procedures. Employees of Prent must complete documented step-by-step training to ensure proper gowning procedures are followed at all times. The elevated gowning procedures allow us to work and maintain a very stringent environmental condition.

The medical industry relies on partners such as Prent to meet sterile packaging requirements, further validating that the packaging process is an important step in the manufacture of medical packaging.

"The key to our value is to exceed customer expectations. Our clean room operations exemplify our commitment to producing high-performance packaging for our customers' critical applications." Why Clean Room Manufacturing?





Our Class 8 certified clean room design maintains positive air pressure and balance and is essential in preventing contaminants from infiltrating into our clean room.



Elevated gowning procedures allows us to work and maintain a very stringent environmental condition.

MITCH BENSON • Senior Vice President of Manufacturing Services

## The Powerful Advantage of Vertical Integration

Prent has long recognized the powerful advantage of controlling their own manufacturing processes. Instead of relying on outside sources, the company focuses on growing and developing employees and expanding capabilities necessary to meet the market demands. From product development, technology, tool and machine build, Prent has been identifying ways to enhance the value chain for decades. Vertical integration has allowed the company to do just that – to innovate and operationalize a seamless transition between processes and align their brand promise with an exceptional customer experience.

Measuring productivity has been a continual best practice. The company uses OEE (Overall Equipment Effectiveness) to systematically identify ways to improve and streamline manufacturing operations. Consistently achieving an OEE score of +95%, the company can attribute their efficiency to their automated, robotic and custom processes.

"We can leverage the fact that our production equipment is the same at all of our facilities. This commonality drives productivity and allows us to operate using the same manufacturing practices worldwide," said Mitch Benson, Senior Vice President of Manufacturing Services. "We have designed and perfected our equipment over the years. Our machines are robust and the lifecycle is long. The teams work together to provide diverse technical support globally."

GREG LOFGREN, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

### **Engineering Expertise**

Whether it's machine, tooling, or facility build, the breadth and depth of experience come from dedicated employees who have built their careers at the company. Working closely and supporting many areas of the business, Prent's manufacturing engineering team provides end-to-end solutions to all locations worldwide.

"We have designed and perfected our equipment over the years. Our machines are robust and the lifecycle is long. The teams work together to provide diverse technical support globally," said Greg Lofgren, Director of Engineering. The domain expertise at Prent is unprecedented. Backed by decades of deep manufacturing expertise and dedicated workmanship, the company is uniquely positioned to provide best-in-class custom thermoform packaging.

232,000 + ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE AND GROWING

## Worldwide Machine Build Facility

Unparalleled uniform manufacturing quality has been led largely by the design and build of thermoformers at the company's worldwide Machine Build facility. Prent impressively averages construction of one thermoformer every four to six weeks. Once complete, it is shipped to one of the nine global thermoforming centers and prepared for production.

All thermoformers are built on matched platforms which allow Prent's global engineering team to react quickly to ensure equipment sustains superior performance. The team can troubleshoot 24/7 from any location to ensure operations are at optimum efficiency and maintain consistent repeatability. With high machine uptime, the ability to turn set-ups quickly, and having materials accessible at all times, Prent's on-time delivery performance continuously exceeds 99.7%. It is this type of service that acts as a catalyst for multiple value-add services for customers.

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## Prent Awards Annual Packaging Scholarships



Chris Bladl of Prent Corporation and Kayla Hartfield UW-Stout student and scholarship recipient. Missing from the photo is Emma Davis. Congratulations to the 2016-2017 recipients of the Prent Corporation Packaging Scholarships! Emma Davis and Kayla Hartfield of the University of Wisconsin-Stout have each been awarded tuition and fees to be applied toward their packaging degree. Every year Prent presents two new scholarships to students enrolled in the packaging program at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. The annual scholarship award covers full tuition and fees as long as the eligible recipient maintains a minimum 3.0 GPA.



**40 +** SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED SINCE 1996

## **Global IT Infrastructure Assessment**

Prent's IT department recently evaluated the company's global IT infrastructure. For nearly two weeks, the teams from China, Malaysia and United States focused on identifying areas needing improvement and ways to increase productivity in the organization. The team recognized a need to upgrade virtualization, improve server and storage infrastructure, and make sure Disaster Recovery plans are effective and up-to-date. The team is also working on security updates to the network that include Next Generation Endpoint Protection, firewall configuration, and multifactor authentication.

It was a productive and thorough evaluation resulting in new insights and solutions to enhance our global network and develop a clear strategy to implement over the next year.





## Prent Arizona Engages in Community Support •

Team members from Prent Arizona participated in the Climb to Conquer Cancer event, which involved a 7-mile walk up Mount Humphreys. Located outside of Flagstaff, Mount Humphreys Peak is the highest natural point in Arizona, with an elevation of 12,633 feet. The 2-hour trek is one of the largest one-day events in the Southwest and is focused on raising awareness about reducing the risks of cancer. Pictured above: Jacob Ulibarri, Alex Slayton, Andrew Ned, Danielle Vazquez and Anet Abbott.

Two employees (Andrew Ned and Keith Vicente) represented Prent Arizona with a 1st place finish in the Stagecoach Run & Relay Race. This historic 55k relay begins at near 7,500 feet, and the runners reach a maximum elevation of 8,500 feet.



## Prent China Celebration & Service Awards •

Over 500 employees celebrated together during Prent China's annual party. The "Generation Show" themed event showcased talent acts (pictured above) from five Chinese eras. More than 80 performers demonstrated their talents by dancing, singing and performing skits for the audience.

Service awards for five and ten-year milestones were given to a total of 20 employees for their continued service at Prent. The 2015 "Employees of the Year" were presented awards by Joseph Pregont, BJ Nielsen and Kuan KH. Recipients Ding Yuxia, Fred Pan and Gordon Hu were recognized for their outstanding aptitude, positive attitude, and teamwork displayed throughout the year.



#### Prent Malaysia Builds Team Spirit •

Employees at Prent Malaysia enjoyed a funfilled day during a company-sponsored water theme park adventure. A total of 127 employees participated in the event.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADESHOWS

MD&M WEST 2017 February 7-9, 2017 • Anaheim, CA, USA HEALTHPACK 2017

March 6 - 9, 2017 • Denver, CO, USA CHINA MED 2017

March 24-26, 2017 • Beijing, China **MEDTEC EUROPE** 

April 4 - 6, 2017 • Messe Stuttgart, Germany MEDTEC JAPAN

April 19-21 2017 • Tokyo, Japan CMEF SHANGHAI 2017

May 15-18, 2017 • Shanghai, China

### RETIREMENTS

**Marion Bliss (12/29/75-9/15/16):** Retirement plans include traveling to visit out-of-town relatives, sewing, embroidery, gardening, and antiquing with friends.

**Cindy Baier (2/8/93-11/30/16):** Retirement plans include a trip to Las Vegas, spending more time with grandchildren, family and friends, and slowing down and enjoying life.

**Ron Fellows (7/5/73-12/30/16):** Retirement plans include helping son-in-law and nephews with hot rods, learning how to fly radio controlled airplanes, and lots of golf.

Patricia Palm (8/7/89-12/15/16): "I enjoyed working at Prent and the friends I made over the years. I am remodeling my house and plan to visit children and travel."

#### PRENT SERVICE AWARDS

#### FIVE YEARS ·

FIVE TEARS	
Esperanza Godinez	Janesville
Heather Gudeyon	Janesville
Jill Fritz Kathy Lockhart	Janesville
Kathy Lockhart	Janesville
Alexis Taylor	Janesville
Sue Tracy	
Jackie Roberts	Janesville
Angela Erickson	Janesville
Jonathan Ast	
Tamika Laws	Janesville
Barbara Schneider	
Koby Wellnitz	Janesville
Randy Spivey	
Taylor Pyne	Janesville
Carmen Miller	Janesville
James Shontz	Flagstaff
Teresa Mayorga	
Varcella Smith	Flagstaff
Buddhi Bahadur Gurung	Malaysia
Yam Bahadur Thapa	Malavsia
Dipak Bahadur Thapa	Malaysia
Dipak Budhathoki	Malaysia
Prem Bahadur Gurung	Malaysia
Jit Bahadur Saru	
Xiaoya Zhang	China
Zhenghui Xu	China
Bin Sheng	China
Xiangyong Fan	China
Hui Wang	China
Fang Deng	
Neining Zhao	
Xiujuan Zhao	
Dachun Xiao	
Yuxia Ding	
Xiaoli Xu	China

#### TEN YEARS ·

Calvin Gutheridge	Janesville
Dwayne Isely	Janesville
Sandra Harnack	Janesville
Penny Bastian	Janesville
Dominique DeCosta	Janesville
Michael Abbott	Janesville
Philip Fjalstad	Janesville
Karla Prince	
Jonathan Zeier	Janesville
Kelly Carr	Janesville
Jennifer Regner	
Michael Mauldin	
Soo Lily	
Chee Day Ching	
Sarina Binti Sagiran	
Jaes Bin Jelani	Malaysia
Ramona Feng	
Jian Xu	
Jessica Chen	China
Zhimou Wan	China
Yugin Guo	
Haiming Ge	
Linggang Wang	
Guilan Feng	
Cailiang Nong	China

#### FIFTEEN YEARS ·

Tony Walls	Janesville
Pang Wei Moy	
Wong Ngiam Chee	Malaysia
Hasri Bin Jumaat	Malaysia
Heng Sok Piau	Malaysia
Chong Hai Fang	Malaysia
Hang Lee Choo	Malaysia
Hari Prasad Chaudhary	Malaysia
Mohan Prasad Chaudhary	Malaysia

#### TWENTY YEARS ·

Chai Koh Heng ......Malaysia

#### TWENTY FIVE YEARS ·

Christopher BladlJanesv	ille

THINTTEANS	
Scott Kersten	Janesville