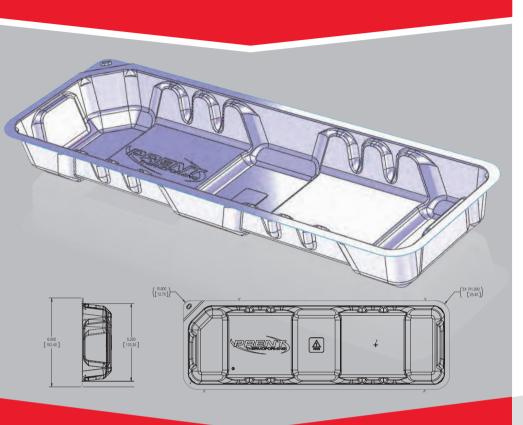
# NEWSPRENT

A PRENT CORPORATION PUBLICATION

**SPRING 2019** 



## Prent Equivalency Tool Ensures Standardization

Prent's customers have asked, "How does Prent know it can provide the same, high-quality trays—regardless of the manufacturing location?" In 2014, a cross-functional team of design/development, quality, and manufacturing engineers at Prent designed a tool that is used as a gold standard. The tool demonstrates thermoformer equivalency for Prent's P22 and P34 class thermoformers. The thermoformers, manufactured in Janesville, Wisconsin, are used in all Prent manufacturing locations. "We engineered a tool and developed a machine control plan," says Dave Henry, Prent Vice President of Quality. "Prent Janesville was a reference standard that we compared to all other Prent sites. We ran the tool in Janesville, shipped it to the other locations, and had a technician run it on a P22 and a P34 at each Prent facility. We then compared results for thickness and flange variation to Janesville's results. The equivalency test is statistically valid and provides our customers confidence in our global thermoforming capabilities." The study established equivalency of the equipment at our other sites around the world, according to Dave. "From an engineering standpoint, it shows that we have a robust machine design and are methodical about our preventive maintenance process. From a risk mitigation standpoint, reducing downtime ensures less interruption in the supply chain. This is significant because of Prent's customers' continued focus on standardized processes and technology."

# Prent Bids Farewell to Matriarch Carol Pregont

Carol Pregont, the beloved wife of the late Jack Pregont, passed away on March 4. She was born March 7, 1933 on her family farm in Milton, WI. Carol was a 1954 UW-Madison graduate with a degree in home economics who will be remembered as a wonderful cook. homemaker, golfer, mother and grandmother. She was very supportive of Jack when he left Parker Pen to start Prent Corporation in 1967, and served on the Board of Directors since its inception. Carol planned countless Prent employee events during the years Jack was President and CEO, and she shared decades of recipes and ideas with Prent employees and customers in "Carol's Corner," a recurring column in NewsPrent. Carol will be greatly missed by her family and those whose lives she influenced in her extraordinary lifetime.

Photo by Observer Media Group





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## Prent Facilities Collaborate to Exhibit in Europe

Prent Denmark exhibited for the eighth time at COMPAMED 2019, a leading international trade fair for the medical technology supplier sector hosted annually together with the Medica exhibition in Düsseldorf, Germany. 120,000 visitors from 155 countries attended the four-day trade fair. Prent networked with many existing customers as well as new companies from Asia, Europe and the U.S. Prent professionals from Denmark, Janesville, Malaysia, and Shanghai facilities staffed the new Prent booth that Vice President of Product Development Don Handrow designed for the show. Prent Denmark also exhibited at Pharmapack, the dedicated packaging and drug delivery event in Paris, France on February 6-7. (Pictured above left to right are BJ Nielsen, Philip Madsen, Vivian Liu, JJ Elmue, Don Handrow, Peter Bay and Kevin Wong.)

- » CMEF Shanghai May 14-17 in Shanghai, China
- » MD&M East 2019
  June 11-13 in New York, New York
- » Medical Technology Ireland September 25-26 in Galway, Ireland

## Prent Puerto Rico Employees Earn Recognition for Contributions to their Community



Prent Puerto Rico Quality Engineer Yaleidy Cesari and Manufacturing Leader Luis Vega (pictured with Wilfredo Mercado, VP of Manufacturing-Latin America) received the Outstanding Contribution Achievement Award from the Southwestern Industrial Association of Puerto Rico. Yaleidy and Luis have been instrumental in the improvement of Prent Puerto Rico. Their commitment to Prent Corporation, and their engagement and contributions to achieve key results were fundamental attributes in their selection among industry professionals in Puerto Rico. The award presentation was on March 19 at the Southwestern Industrial Association of Puerto Rico Installation and Excellence Award Ceremony.

# GOEX Adds Class 8 Clean Room Slitting Capabilities

GOEX Corporation in Janesville recently completed an ISO Class 8 certified clean room conversion center. This expansion to secondary operations assures GOEX customers in the medical and food packaging markets receive the sterile packaging materials they demand. Strengthened capabilities include slitting 4" min. width, 48" max. diameter finished rolls that can be packaged individually.

The new 50' x 60' space further demonstrates GOEX's commitment to providing medical device and food manufacturers with high performance, packaging materials for critical applications. As the leading manufacturer of custom plastic sheet and roll stock, GOEX meets the highest standards and demanding requirements of the food and medical packaging markets.

This expansion distinguishes GOEX as the only rigid sheet extruder in North America with such capabilities.

"GOEX has continually provided quality plastics in an environmentally-controlled facility. The addition of this ISO-certified, Class 8 cleanroom operation strengthens our ability to provide premier plastic products, be more flexible internally, and run more efficiently overall" says Joshua Gray, GOEX President & CEO.

GOEX maintains an ISO 9001:2015, FSSC22000, and IMS certified QMS that provides customers with quality extruded plastic products specifically designed to meet the demands of their particular marketplace.

To learn more about GOEX Corporation's Class 8 Clean Room slitting capabilities, contact Jay Jensen, Vice President Sales and Marketing at (608) 373-7426 or visit www.goex.com.

# PRENT Profiles



## Get to Know Your Prent Sales Coordinator: Donna Peloquin-Johnson

Donna will celebrate 27 years at Prent Janesville this October. In 1992, she was introduced to Prent through her high school co-op program and started doing clerical work in the Design department. She moved to the Production Control department two years later, before shifting to the Sales department in 1999. She was born in Janesville, is a '93 Parker High graduate, and attended Blackhawk Technical College. Among her many responsibilities, Donna handles all new inquiries, customer change notifications, customer complaints/advisories, tool deactivations and coverage for the sales staff while they are out of the office. Donna and her team assist with all customer quotes, new tooling orders, tool revisions, customer approvals, first-time production runs, and specialty production requests. Donna loves the interaction with customers, the variety of her job, and the fact that every day is different and challenging for her. Outside of work, she and her husband JJ are actively raising their 10-year-old son Samuel, who plays hockey, and their 12-year-old son Tristan, who plays basketball. In her free time, Donna also enjoys camping, photography and any outdoor activities with her family.



## Prent China Enjoys Exciting Excursion to Western Hills

Prent China organized a staff retreat to Western Hills in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province last fall with over 200 employees in attendance. The change of scenery proved to be a great escape, and outdoor activities, like horseback riding and boating, helped rejuvenate the participants. The outing helped staff feel rejuvenated and provided an opportune team-building experience.



# Prent Malaysia Hosts 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party and Cultural Festival Celebration

Prent Malaysia celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a formal dinner and entertainment, attracting 187 (98%) of its employees to the event. Additionally, Prent employees participated in Deepavali Day, a cultural festival that included local, traditional food and artwork late last year.



### Prent China Hosts Global Manufacturing Summit

The first Global Manufacturing Summit took place at Prent China last fall. Prent Janesville, Arizona, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Denmark, Malaysia, and China discussed processes, equipment, staff, and quality aspects to achieve a global standard in manufacturing operations. The summit offered a platform to exchange ideas related to global manufacturing practices.

## Prent Puerto Rico Upgrades Class 8 Clean Room

As Prent Puerto Rico keeps growing its capabilities and volumes, its current cleanroom will be expanded and upgraded. This upgrade includes space for additional manufacturing as well as certification of the manufacturing area as an ISO Class 8 (100,000) cleanroom.

### Prent Facilities Celebrate One Year with No Lost-Time Accidents

In an industry where plant productivity is a priority and any lost-time accident can be detrimental to success, Prent Arizona and Prent Janesville are pleased to announce they have not had any lost-time accidents for an entire year. Prent cultivates a safety standard that ensures lost-time accidents are at a minimum by having proper controls in place, such as maintaining adequate staffing levels, providing protective equipment, creating strategies to identify safety vulnerabilities, and continued education for employees and management.

## Prent Denmark Achieves Green Initiative with Grinding Room Addition



Prent Corporation is maintaining efficiencies while protecting the environment with the installation of its new granulator and grinding room at its Denmark location. Prent Denmark's goal with this new initiative is to ensure its scrap material is able to be recycled. The granulated scrap material is mainly polyethylene terephthalate glycol-modified (PETG), but also includes

other types of material such as APET, HIPS and PC.

"The granulator gives us the opportunity to get a much more attractive product out of our scrap material, and we have seen an increased interest in our scrap granulated compared to scrap rolls," says Prent Denmark Production Manager Frederik Sjøberg.

"When we started planning this project, we aligned our mission with that of the entire Prent organization, to get the best possible working solution," Frederik said. After conferring with Prent Janesville and Prent Asia, the grinding room was built as a separate room in the Denmark warehouse with space incorporated to add another granulator in the future. The grinding room is sound-proofed and its outer walls are made of replaceable, steel plates. The inner walls are made of recycled material to minimize noise throughout the warehouse when the granulator is in use.

# Prent Puerto Rico spreads happiness and strengthens community outreach

Prent Puerto Rico and its employees sponsored 75 children from a community with limited resources in Yauco over the holiday season. Each employee sponsored one or more children, bringing them Christmas presents that helped foster their growth as individuals. Those involved said it is impossible to describe the joy and the smiles that Prent put on the children's faces. "This might be the only present these children receive on Christmas ... it is amazing!" says Olga, a community leader in Santa Catalina in Yauco. Prent was recognized by the Salvation Army for being a strong partner in community outreach, helping those in need and providing support to help build Yauco's children into strong leaders.



# Prent Collaborates with Blackhawk Technical College to Offer Leadership Training

Prent Janesville recently partnered with Blackhawk Technical College to empower its employees to succeed through leadership training. Four groups of employees—from machine operators to quality inspector auditors to executives—are being trained in a number of leadership areas, including understanding personality combinations to improve relationships, communications, and teamwork; becoming a more effective professional; dealing with difficult people and managing conflict; creating a supportive work environment; and more.

"We decided it was a great opportunity to allow employees to get further knowledge and training to help advance their careers at Prent and GOEX," Prent Vice President of Manufacturing Rachel Andres said. In addition to this unique opportunity, Prent also offers all of its employees access to a Litmos Learning Management System (LMS), which provides online training in critical subject areas such as compliance, sales mastery, customer service, leadership training, health and safety, cybersecurity, and more. "It is an organized and efficient way to reach everyone at Prent and GOEX with training on machine changes and customer complaints, or to have access to a manual for different processes," Rachel says. "All of our on-boarding training takes place in Litmos, which helps with efficiencies and is a convenient, user-friendly method to track our employees' training progress."



## Prent Engineer Pursues Passion for Service

Katherine "Kat" Kroening has had a passion for tool design engineering while at Prent Janesville the last four years, but she has had a passion to serve in the military her whole life.

"I've always wanted to pursue something bigger than myself,"
Kat says of the Army Reserve, a division of the Army that lets
her serve on a part-time basis while staying in the community.
February marked one year of Kat's service with the 469th
Engineer Company at the Dodgeville Memorial US Army Reserve Center. She made a six-year commitment, and will remain
trained and in the system for a total of eight years. At any time,
Kat could be deployed to active duty. She says the timing of her
deployment would depend on the urgency of the situation.

Kat's colleagues at Prent are aware of the possibility and ready to step in to cover for her in her absence. Her team of engineers split the workload while she attended a 10-week basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, MO. There, Kat learned a different type of engineering—combat. Her Prent job revolves around 3D computer design, while her Reserve job centers around mobility, which includes anything from building bridges and fences to the demolition and clearing of buildings and paths.

"My job at basic training was to find a way to keep moving forward through obstacles," she said. "Although the engineering I do at Prent is defined differently, the overall concept [to overcome obstacles] can also be applied to my job."

Kat's courses at basic training focused on building teamwork, overcoming fears, physical training and increasing confidence. Kat has applied that to her role at Prent. "A lot of the mental challenges were tough," she said. "But, I now have more confidence and feel like I can help lead more at work."

Kat is one of several Prent employees to attend basic training while employed. Prent has long supported those who serve our country and currently employs both military personnel and veterans.

"Everyone at Prent has been more supportive than I could have ever expected," Kat said. "They told me they were proud of my service. No one had a problem stepping up when I was gone."

# PRENT

## People

#### **EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS**

#### **40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Edward Delong Janesville Dan Driscoll Janesville

#### **35 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Denise Dewitt Janesville
Dean Ellison Janesville
James Lewis Janesville
Dorothiann Mead Janesville
Diane Parr Janesville
Penny Pierce Janesville

#### **25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Daniel Ebneter Janesville
Daryl Good Janesville
Sara Lemke Janesville
Stephen Zimmerman Janesville

#### 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Deborah Butcher Janesville
Debra Christner Janesville
Rosaidi Bin Che Me Malaysia
Glenda Pecaro Janesville
David Shanks Janesville
Scott Shepherd Janesville
Michael Zimmerman Janesville

#### **15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Kevin Wong Cheong Loong Malaysia
Zurawati Binti Mausir Malaysia
Hing Chin Taak Malaysia
Siti Hawa Binti Umar Malaysia

### **10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Mitchell Benson
Shawn Buck
Alan Callies
Joshua Campbell
Kelly Ceranski
Dhan Bahadur Darlami
Tan Kheng Hin
Yap Chow Lim
Rosemary Logan
Tek Bahadur Rawat
Ng Kiang Seng
Heather Warne
Jesse Winker
Rance Whitehead

Janesville Malaysia Malaysia Arizona Malaysia Malaysia Janesville Janesville Arizona

Janesville

Janesville

Janesville

Janesville

#### **5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Lindsay Ast Janesville Maria Barajas Janesville Man Bahadur Basnet Malaysia Chuck Begay Arizona Martir Berrocales Puerto Rico Madhu Sharma Bhusal Malaysia Jit Bahadur Bista Malaysia Shirley Carlson Janesville Cory Eggen Janesville (Awards continued on back cover)

#### Inside this Issue

Prent Bids Farewell to Matriarch Prent Engineer Pursues Passion Prent Denmark Exhibits in Europe Prent Puerto Rico Receives Award





#### 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY continued Charles Gross Janesville Elsa Hansen Denmark Aimie Fatiehah Binti Hasli Malaysia Ronnette Hatlevig Janesville Cassandra Hodgson Janesville Anna Johnson Janesville Lal Bahadur Karki Malaysia Lana Lavelle Janesville Hizwan Bin Mahmod Malaysia Siti Rafhan Binti Mohamad Malaysia Joe Pregont II Janesville Izzat Ismadi Bin Ramlan Malaysia Janesville Cynthia Russell Paul Sanders Janesville Penni Stevens Janesville Kay Taaffe Janesville Sak Chian Tai Malaysia Raghu Uraw Malaysia Brenda Waite Janesville Wong Peng Yee Malaysia Khairul Azuan Bin Che Yusoff Malaysia

### A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR RETIREES

### **Linda Cooper » Production Planner/Scheduler**

**1/24/83–1/2/19** Linda is looking forward to spending more time with her four granddaughters, family, and friends. She will spend more time doing yard work and gardening—both things she loves to do. She also hopes to get back into running and catching up on other projects.

### Cynthia Long » Inspector/Packer

**5/8/01–8/25/06**; **5/24/12–10/4/18** Cynthia is looking forward to spending more time with her three grandkids and going to flea markets to buy and sell items. She wants to volunteer at the library. She is also hoping to travel to Italy and Greece with her husband.

### **Dorothiann Mead » Inspector/Packer**

**9/19/83–1/10/19** Dorothiann just celebrated 35 years at Prent! She plans to travel more with her husband, starting with Florida and upper Wisconsin. They'll venture out to other unseen areas of the US later. She looks forward to spending more time with her daughter and grandson. She recently started studying theology and looks forward to learning more about it.

## **Barb Schneider** » Inspector/Packer

**8/19/11–11/1/18** Barb is looking forward to camping and spending time with her grandkids. She plans to just take each day as it comes.



## Prent Baja Set to Open in May 2019

Construction of Prent Baja, a 37,000-square-foot facility in Rosarito, Mexico continues at a rapid pace and will be operational in May. The new facility will be an ISO 13485-certified manufacturing plant featuring a certified clean room environment, which is 75% complete (see photo at right). As part of Prent's vertical integration strategy, the Baja facility will access Prent's Global Package Design Teams, Worldwide Machine Build and Custom Tool Build facilities, ensuring consistent, high-quality performance in the Tijuana area.

