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A NOTE FROM STEVE ROGERS

Happy Spring everyone! I am so relieved that the winter is finally over, it has been an especially tough one here in Minnesota. However, I can happily say that I can finally see grass. It is remarkable to see what the weather change does to a person's disposition.

It is an exciting time here at Anchor Plastics. We just finished our 1st quarter and I am excited to report that it was the best sales quarter in our company's history, with a 23% increase over last year's 1st quarter. We want to thank everyone who has helped us reach those goals. I know that we have seen both an increase in orders in addition to new tool-

ing projects that are now nearing completion, making our future sales even greater.

I want to welcome our two new mold technicians that recently passed the final exam to become fully trained. Brett Larsen and Nate Beaudry have done an excellent job and are ensuring that all the products meet our internal requirements and our customers' quality specifications. We will be looking at adding a few more employees in the near future to help with the increase in sales.

I am extremely confident that the economy is turning around and we continue to work hard

with our material suppliers to keep the price increases down. Knowing that material price has been a major issue recently, we have spoken with our suppliers and have been assured that the shortages of last year are beginning to stabilize.

Again, I want to thank everyone for their continued support in making Anchor Plastics successful.

Steve Rogers
President
Anchor Plastics, Inc.

COMPANY SPOTLIGHT FEATURE ON CHANNEL 12 NEWS

Congratulations are in order for Anchor Plastics, Inc. and President Steve Rogers.

In early March, Steve was contacted by local Channel 12 News anchor Alexandra Renslo to be featured as a business spotlight in the following week's 12 News Business Matters segment of the evening news.



In addition to the feature, the following article was posted on the Channel 12 News website.

Monday, March 07, 2011 -- After soldiering through a rough stretch in the economy, Golden Valley-based Anchor Plastics, Inc. is seeing a resurgence in business with sales up 56 percent in 2011. It could be a promising sign for a company that took a beating in 2009.

The company might not be a household name, but the plastic components Anchor Plastics produces can be found in everything from kitchen appliances to hearing aids.

"You will find a lot of our products in things you buy everyday," said company President Steve Rogers.

With about 20 employees and 7 presses operating around the clock, Anchor Plastics is currently producing millions of different plastic pieces for about 20 different companies from around the world.

"We ship parts to China, Taiwan, Mexico, Canada and a bunch here in the United States too," said Rogers.

Business is booming now and that's an encouraging sign for Rogers, who took over the family-owned

company from his father in 2007.

Shortly after taking over the company, Rogers and the employees at Anchor Plastics experienced a dramatic downturn in business in early 2009.

As the recession took hold, orders stopped coming in and business dropped 60 percent. The possibility of layoffs became a real concern for the company, but Rogers and his employees stepped up and came up with a better alternative.

"As a group we decided it would be better, if we all cut our hours, and he [Rogers] could keep us with our benefits," said Chad Martens, the company's quality manager.

For several months, employees worked reduced hours, sometimes 24-hour weeks, other times 32-hour weeks. In the end, the company survived without

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

April

4th - LaRae Rogers' Birthday

16th - Marie Borgen's
2 Year Anniversary

26th - Bobby Lopez's Birthday

May

11th - Chad Martens' Birthday

11th - Bobby Lopez's
5 Year Anniversary

11th - Steve Rogers'
13 Year Anniversary

June

24th - Tony Boire's
3 Year Anniversary



ANCHOR PLASTICS INVESTS IN “GREEN” TECHNOLOGY

Due to recent growth in business, Anchor Plastics of Golden Valley, MN has decided to initiate expansion of their facilities by adding another plastic injection molding press to their production floor.

This all electric, 165-ton variable Cincinnati Milacron will lend additional help to Anchor's growing demand by running 24/7 alongside the current 6 presses. This capacity expansion significantly increases the company's ability to respond quickly to a rapidly growing number of customer orders.

"With our investment in this additional equipment we're demonstrating our commitment to provide our customers with the fastest and lowest-cost injection molding service in the industry," said Steve Rogers, President of Anchor Plastics.

Anchor is also looking towards a more "environmental friendly" future. In addition to the new press, Anchor opted to upgrade its barrel heating and cool-

ing system to a "greener" model and is one of the first injection molders to do so.

Not only is it more environmentally friendly, the new ServTek TCS System offers a 30%-50% faster heat up time resulting in a reduction of 50%-80% in overall costs compared to induction heating models. It will also help to improve worker safety by containing

heat and is safe to touch under normal operating conditions.

"The demand for our TCS heater products from the small machine market is quite extensive," says ServTek's Ritch Waterfield. "We estimate that injection machines under 400 tons comprise approximately 60 to 70% of the total installed base of machinery in

the Americas. Those machines use barrels with diameters under 5.8 inches, which we are now producing for the first time," he said.

While the smaller machine market is primarily focused on processing control and accuracy, any coincidental energy savings will drop directly to the profit line.

"TCS technology is breakthrough in many ways, including energy conservation, for processors who utilize machines under 400 tons," said Bob Strickley, Milacron director of marketing. "There are few outstanding developments in the small-size injection machine market that compare to the ServTek TCS system."

The ServTek TCS system is a proven technology only offered by Milacron and was first introduced at the ANTEC trade show in Milwaukee in 2007. It offers additional benefits including less heat emitted into air-conditioned manufacturing space, fewer heat-related operator and set up injuries, and no "eddy current" operating issues.



... Company Spotlight Feature on Channel 12 News continued ...

having to let any employees go.

"We were able to keep all the employees, and it was really all their efforts that found more efficient ways to do it, so that's really why we survived," said Rogers.

By the end of 2009, business started to pick up again, and this year the company is on track to reach \$2.5 million in sales, up from just under \$2 million in sales last year. It's story of successful recovery for a company determined to stay afloat.

"We just never gave up," said Rogers.

To view the online video, please visit our website at:

<http://www.anchor-plastics.com/press.php>

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Anchor Plastics, Inc. is pleased to spotlight **Ruth Fischbach** as the Customer Service Manager.

This summer will mark Ruth's 5th year with Anchor Plastics, Inc. coming from Anchor Tool and Plastic, Inc.

Ruth started at Anchor Plastics, Inc. as the Customer Service Manager and after 6 months took on the company's Human Resource role as well.

Part of Ruth's duties at that time were to purchase all raw material and components used in Production. After only one year she became

Anchor's main purchasing agent, ordering maintenance supplies and production equipment, along with Tool Room needs as well.

Currently, Ruth processes all of Anchor Plastics' customer purchase orders, works closely with buyers to ensure their inventory needs are met, maintains inventory of raw material and finished products for Anchor.

She also works with all employee-related aspects of past, present and future staff by maintaining records, screening new hires and keeps Anchor Plastics, Inc. a great place to work.





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BIO-PLASTIC PLANT SYMBOL CHOSEN

The bioplastics industry may have a new symbol to slap on its products and packaging – an abstract plant to denote plastics made without petroleum.

Bioplastics, or organic plastics, are a form of plastics derived from renewable biomass sources, such as vegetable oil, pea starch, or microbiota, rather than fossil-fuel plastics which are derived from petroleum. Some, but not all, bioplastics are designed to biodegrade.

More than 1,500 designers submitted entries into a contest seeking an icon to represent plastics created using potatoes, corn, wheat, tapioca, sugar, algae and other natural materials.

The competition, backed by El Segundo bioplastics maker Cereplast Inc., was inspired by the 1970 contest that produced the image of three

green arrows now known ubiquitously as the emblem of recycling.



Cereplast's founder and chief executive Frederic Scheer also founded the Biodegradable Products Institute and is chairman of the Bioplastics Council of the Society of the Plastics Industry.

Laura Howard, a graphic design student at the University of Louisville in Kentucky, nabbed the \$25,000 grand prize. Her symbol looks a bit like the insignia found on Eva, the robot sent to look for plant life on a future, wasted version of Earth in the Pixar film Wall-E.

The entry was chosen by a panel of judges after 2.8 million public votes helped narrow down the field to 200 submissions.

... with featured chef: Carly Sparpana



Recipe For:

Baked Mac n' Cheese

Ingredients:

1 - 12 oz package macaroni
1 egg
2 cups milk
2 tbsp melted butter
2 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
Salt & pepper to taste

Yields Approximately 4 Servings

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 F and lightly grease a 2-quart baking dish.
2. Boil macaroni noodles for about 5 minutes until half-cooked.
3. Whisk egg and milk together, add butter and cheese and stir well.
4. Place macaroni in baking dish, pour egg and cheese liquid over the macaroni, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and stir well.
5. Bake uncovered, for 30 to 40 minutes, or until the top is brown.