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A NOTE FROM STEVE ROGERS

President
Anchor Plastics, Inc.



As always, I would like to take the time to thank all of our customers, suppliers, employees and friends of Anchor Plastics, Inc. Without all of you, none of our successes would be possible. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW?

Saint Patrick, who lived during the fifth century, is the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at the age of 16. He later escaped, but returned to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people.

In the centuries following Patrick's death (believed to have been on March 17, 461), the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture: Perhaps the most well known legend is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.

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11 TRUTHS ABOUT RECYCLING

1. The average person generates over 4 pounds of trash every day and about 1.5 tons of solid waste per year.
2. In 2009, Americans produced enough trash to circle the Earth 24 times.
3. Over 75% of waste is recyclable, but we only recycle about 30% of it.
4. We generate 21.5 million tons of food waste each year. If we composted that food, it would reduce the same amount of greenhouse gas as taking 2 million cars off the road.
5. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to listen to a full album on your iPod. Recycling 100 cans could light your bedroom for two whole weeks.
6. Recycling aluminum cans saves 95% of the energy used to make aluminum cans from new material.
7. Americans throw away 25,000,000 plastic bottles every hour.
8. Over 87% of Americans have access to curbside or drop-off paper recycling programs.
9. In 2009, Americans threw away almost 9 million tons of glass. That could fill enough tractor trailers to stretch from NYC to LA (and back!).
10. In 2010, paper recycling had increased over 89% since 1990.
11. If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, we could save about 25 million trees each year.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

April 4th	LaRae Rogers
April 26th	Bobby Lopez
May 11th	Chad Martens
May 15th	Colin Cook
May 22nd	Derek House

Anniversaries

April 16th	Marie Borgen 4 Years
May 2nd	Bobby Lopez 7 Years
May 11th	Steve Rogers 15 Years
June 23rd	Tony Boire 5 Years

2013 MFG OFF TO A GOOD START

Manufacturing in 2012 was sort of like the opening sentence of Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times . . ." It was tough to figure out just what was happening and where manufacturing was headed.

The automotive industry was a major bright spot in 2012, and of course medical (in spite of the device tax in the ACA) and packaging (food, beverage, consumer goods, and just about anything else that goes in a package) remained strong.

The Institute for Supply Management (ISM) reported that the manufacturing sector expanded in January for the second consecutive month, with the Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) registering 53.1%, an increase of 2.9% from December's seasonally adjusted reading of 50.2%. The New Orders index registered 53.3%,

an increase of 3.6% over December's seasonally adjusted reading of 49.7%, indicating a nice jump in new orders.

Manufacturing is starting out the year on a positive note," commented Bradley J. Holcomb, CPSM, CPSD, chair of the ISM's Manufacturing Business Survey Committee, "with all five of the PMI's component indexes—new orders, production, employment, supplier deliveries and inventories—registering above 50% in January."

Those in the plastics industry will be happy to know that of the 13 out of 18 industries reporting growth in January, Plastics & Rubber Products made the top spot in the ranking. Among the commodities up in price, the ISM's list contained many plastics and chemicals to make plastics, including benzene, HDPE, PET bottles, polypropylene, and polystyrene.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT OF ANCHOR PLASTICS!

Anchor Plastics, Inc. is excited to congratulate Steve Rogers for being named an honoree for the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's 40 Under 40 for 2013.

This is a very prestigious award that is only offered to those who have demonstrated excellent leadership in and outside of their company, is successful, who contributes to the community, and is under forty years old.

In May of 2012, Steve led the company to its highest sales month in Anchor Plastics' history. In just 7 years Anchor has tripled its sales and this is why the company was named one of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's Fast 50.

With the projects queue filling up quickly for 2013, it's estimated that Anchor will go from \$2.7 million to \$3.5 million in sales. Steve is preparing for this 30% increase by hiring new employees, upgrading equipment, and updating procedures.

Aside from his professional

accomplishments, Steve demonstrates his leadership abilities through the way he runs Anchor Plastics and the way he treats his employees. He refers to Anchor and its employees as the "Anchor Family," which has become a vital part of the company culture.

He maintains this culture by organizing several company events throughout the year; last Spring he treated the staff to a box suite at an Aerosmith concert. To celebrate the Holidays each year Steve rents a theater so the staff can enjoy dinner while watching a football game, followed by a movie.

Steve's contribution to the surrounding community is just one more reason he has earned the 40 Under 40 award. Steve regularly participates in events such as the Special Olympics and the Cook for Kids at the Minneapolis Crisis Nursery.

He is also a committed donor to the VFW and the local Humane Society. Being an Executive Board member for Pi Sigma Epsilon, Steve provides \$3,000 in scholarships every year as well.

Through hard work, dedication and perseverance, Steve has achieved what any business owner aims for: a growing, successful company. So, congratulations Steve!

– From the "Anchor Family"

Also, a special congratulations to Andrew Jacobson, Danny Innes and Danielle Sullivan for successfully completing their training programs with Anchor Plastics! Thanks to your determination, you have all become great assets to the company and Anchor is proud to have you!

(2013 MFG off to a Good Start continued...)

The U.S. Census Bureau's report on Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders for December 2012, showed that new orders for manufactured goods increased in December 1.8% to \$484.8 billion. However, most of that increase was in transportation.

Excluding transportation, new orders increased just 0.2%. Shipments, which were up for five of the last six months of 2012, increased \$1.8 billion or 0.4% to \$484.9 billion. Unfilled orders also saw an increase in six of the last seven months of 2012, with December up \$7.9 billion or 0.8% to \$991.7 billion. Inventories of durable goods in December were down \$0.1 billion to \$374.5 billion following 14 consecutive monthly increases.

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Anchor Plastics is happy to highlight **Danielle Sullivan** in the Employee Spotlight.

Danielle was born in Buffalo, MN. Prior to becoming the Marketing and Human Resources Manager for Anchor Plastics, she was a stay-at-home mother and homemaker.

During that time, Danielle obtained her Master's Degree. She has three beautiful children and recently married her fiancé of 9 years, "finally!"

Her hobbies include playing guitar,

puzzles, making jewelry and dream catchers, and other crafts. She also enjoys playing

video games with her husband. She loves spending time with her family and thinks that nothing is better than taking the kids to the park for a BBQ or to the Como Zoo.

In addition her family added a new member over Christmas: A Chihuahua puppy named Lady, who they all adore!



