

Openings & Closings, Promotions & Appointments in the Gear Industry

SU America and Star Cutter Consolidate Sales

SU America Inc., a unit of Samputensili S.p.A. of Bologna, Italy, and Star Cutter Co. of Farmington Hills, MI, announced a mutual agreement to consolidate sales activity of each company's gear cutting tool product lines. The new entity will be owned equally and managed by executives from both companies.

According to SU America's press release, the merger creates a company offering a comprehensive gear tool product line that includes hobs, shaper cutters, shaving cutters, milling cutters, form relief milling cutters, bevel gear cutting tools, plated grinding wheels, and deburr/chamfering tools, as well as coating and tool maintenance centers located throughout North America for recoating and resharping tools.

Cincinnati Gear Closes After 95 Years

Mariemont, OH-based Cincinnati Gear Co. closed its doors Feb. 28.

The manufacturer of gears and gearboxes was founded in 1907. Due to financial difficulties, the company has laid off a significant portion of its workforce. Further details about the company's future have not been released.

Cincinnati Gear owns two factories in the Cincinnati area. The subsidiary, BHS-Cincinnati of Sonthofen, Germany, is a financially independent entity and will not be affected by the closing, according to a letter from the BHS-Cincinnati supervisory board, which was posted on the BHS-Cincinnati website.

Fellows Corp. Closes, Parent Company Files for Bankruptcy

Fellows Corp. ceased operations Feb. 13, according to an article in *The Connecticut Post*.

The company, along with J&L Metrology Co. Inc., Bryant Grinder Corp., Hill-Loma Inc. and Jones & Lamson Vermont Group, is up for sale. All five were subsidiaries of the Goldman Industrial Group, which filed for Chapter 11 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Delaware.

A single subsidiary, Bridgeport Machine, plans to continue manufacturing machine tools.

Founded in 1896, Fellows Corp. produced gear shaping machines and cutting tools from its North Springfield, VT, headquarters.

Nachi Promotes Vice President to CEO

Senior management announced the promotion of Francis J. (Butch) Wisner to president and CEO of Nachi Machining

Technology Co. of Macomb, MI.

Wisner joined the company in 1994 and most recently served as vice president of product development. Prior to that, he worked as a senior-level engineer at General Motors Corp. for 23 years.

Nachi Machining is the result of a 1991 merger between National Broach and Machine Co. and Nachi-Fujikoshi Corp. of Tokyo, Japan.

Dathan Tool & Gauge Buys David Brown Gear Tools

Dathan Tool & Gauge Co. Ltd., a U.K.-based manufacturer of precision gear cutting tools, has acquired the business and assets of David Brown Gear Tools, which also is in the United Kingdom and designs and manufactures gear cutting tools.

According to Dathan's press release, the acquisition will enable the company to increase its manufacturing capabilities to include more comprehensive design and development work.

Founded in 1924, Dathan added gear cutting tools to its range of products in the late 1930s and currently manufactures and supplies precision gear tools.

Gleason Opens Gear Manufacturing Support Center in Mexico

Gleason Corp. announced the opening of a technical support center in Queretaro, Mexico, to bring its gear manufacturing services to that country.

According to Gleason's press release, the new facility will ensure that Gleason customers receive increased local access to training resources, process and application engineering support, tool inventory management, tool sharpening services and spare parts inventory and on-site service personnel.

Mitutoyo Names New Vice President

Mitutoyo America Corp. of Aurora, IL, appointed Dennis Traynor to vice president, product support services.

His responsibilities include guiding the company's calibration labs and the Mitutoyo Institute of Metrology, as well as field service, repair and contact inspection operations. Additionally, he will be accountable for the ongoing accreditation initiative throughout the company for compliance with the ISO/IEC 17025 standard.

Prior to his promotion, Traynor served for 14 years in sales, regional and product management roles.

Mitutoyo provides measuring instruments, including a roundness measuring system for gears and other cylindrical forms.

M&M Precision Names Vice President

Douglas Beerck was appointed vice president of sales and marketing at M&M Precision Systems Corp. of Dayton, OH.

According to the company's press release, he had worked in the company's sales and marketing departments from 1984 to 1999. He then joined AK Steel Corp. of Middletown, OH, as a senior analyst.

M&M serves the automotive, truck, aerospace, off-road vehicle and agricultural equipment industries, as well as contract gear manufacturers, machine tool, power tool, medical equipment, semiconductor, electronics and special machine builders. M&M Precision Systems Corp. is a subsidiary of Danaher Corp.

Ticona Appoints Global Marketing & Sales Director

Ticona announced the appointment of Michael Maguire as global marketing and sales director for the company's Topas cyclic olefin copolymer business line.

Maguire will work from the Summit, NJ, headquarters.

He was recently vice president of sales and marketing for Progressive Plastics Inc. of Cleveland, OH. He holds an MBA in marketing from Fairleigh Dickenson University and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Rutgers University.

Among Maguire's new responsibilities is the implementation of the current Topas COC strategy and development of marketing to different demographics. He will rank as the most senior member of the Topas business line in the United States.

Philadelphia Gear Corp. Opens Alabama Facility

A new facility in Birmingham, AL, will open to offer service and repair capabilities for Philadelphia Gear customers throughout the southeastern United States.

According to the company's press release, the Birmingham employees are specialists in power transmission life cycle support, including the repair and rebuilding of all major gearing brands. The facility includes 14,000 square feet of workspace, as well as 25-ton crane capacity.

John Brace, general manager of Philadelphia Gear's Houston facility, will run the Birmingham branch as well.

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