

Summer 2006

www.lmcsc.org

LMC focuses on building and expanding relationships with strong leadership and new Executive Director

As the Lowcountry Manufacturers Council moves forward in its 2006-2007 fiscal year, a new growth strategy has been implemented which focuses on strong leadership and a unified vision. To accomplish these goals the LMC appointed an executive director, created a new strategic plan, and has a solid leadership group in place.

The LMC remains committed to addressing the needs of all manufacturers, serving as the voice of local industry, and establishing initiatives beneficial to industry. In an effort to accomplish this more effectively, the LMC has implemented a new "Visitation Program," which will be managed by the newly appointed Executive Director, Mr. Philip Owens. As Executive Director, Mr. Owens will be meeting with local manufacturing representatives on a weekly basis in order to get input and discover the challenges, issues and opportunities facing manufacturers in our area. This information will be reported regularly to the Board of Directors and influence their decisions on programs, initiatives and the direction for the organization.

Mr. Owens also serves as senior vice president of Business Development for the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, which contractually manages the LMC. Mr. Owens' new and expanded role will be to connect with local manufacturers and to advocate on behalf of the LMC. Mr. Owens can be reached directly at 843-805-3010 or powers@charlestonchamber.org.



In addition to increased staff management, the LMC is now operating under the guidelines of a new strategic plan. Early this spring the LMC leadership engaged in a strategic planning process and established a new program of work focusing on workforce development issues, growing the membership, improving the programs offered and making sure that members are involved.

All of this could not be accomplished without a dedicated leadership group. In addition to a Board of Directors that represents the region's leading manufacturers, a talented group has committed to serving as committee chairs and members. This year's LMC committee leadership includes:

LMC Board of Directors Chair – Cody Baker, CMCI; LMC Board of Directors Chair-Elect – Sean McLernon, STEALTH Concealment Solutions; LMC Member Benefit Programs Committee Chair – Steven Brower, Carolina Starches; LMC Membership and Marketing Committee Chair – Mark W. Richards, The Richards Group; and Interim LMC Programs Committee Chair - Cody Baker, CMCI. Jack Hoey of Coastal Glass Distributors will be representing the LMC on the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Committee, and Mr. Sean McLernon of STEALTH Concealment Solutions will represent the LMC on the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors.

Get Involved!

Interested in being a part of helping the LMC grow, expand and become an even better organization?

Help increase membership by telling non-members about the benefits of being an LMC member, or pass along referrals to the LMC leadership who will then follow up with local manufacturers that haven't yet joined.

Become a part of making decisions and creating new programs by joining one of the following committees: Membership and Marketing; Member Benefit Programs; Workforce Development; Programs and Activities; or the Board of Directors. There are also other opportunities to represent the LMC on affiliate organization's committees.

To learn more about these opportunities or to refer us to a manufacturer that should become a member, contact Jennifer DeWitt at 843-805-3010 or jdewitt@charlestonchamber.org. **Learn more about the committees and upcoming events online at the LMC web site, www.lmcsc.org.** Your support and involvement is vital to the LMC's continued success.

New Chairman Focuses on Workforce Development and Emphasizes the Importance of Manufacturers Working Together

Fellow Manufacturers:

It is an honor to be the new LMC Chairman, and I am looking forward to the opportunities in the upcoming year for manufacturers in the Lowcountry. To begin, I would like to thank Ron Paquette for his leadership over the past year. Ron confronted many difficult issues head on and leaves the LMC on a solid foundation for the new year. In addition, a big thank you goes to Jennifer DeWitt who continues to do an outstanding job of managing LMC activities and programs.

In 2005, the National Association of Manufacturers conducted a study stating more than 80% of manufacturing companies reported having difficulty finding skilled employees. Sixty percent of the respondents reported rejecting half of all applicants because of a lack of basic skills. I have heard similar comments by many manufacturers in the Lowcountry. While our processes and products may differ, we all share the common need for a skilled and technically trained workforce. This is a vital component of all of our businesses! For this reason, I will place significant focus on developing a strong Workforce Development program in the upcoming year. This includes working with local schools and other educational organizations to establish the manufacturing community's voice in developing our future employees.

In addition to the Workforce Development initiatives, the LMC will continue to provide innovative cost-saving programs through our Membership Benefit Programs Committee. Our roundtables and plant tours will remain a value-adding resource for your company. We are also developing relationships with local and state legislative organizations to ensure that Lowcountry Manufacturers have a strong voice in our state legislative process.

There has never been a more significant time to be an active member of the LMC. The widening workforce gap, the continuing pressures of competition, and the ever-increasing cost of doing business demand we pull together to find new ways to innovate to remain successful.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve as the LMC chairman this year, and I ask for your support as we move forward.

Sincerely,



J. Cody Baker
LMC Chairman, 2006-2007
Director of Manufacturing, Charleston Marine Containers, Inc.

Lowcountry Manufacturers Council
2006-2007 Board of Directors

Cody Baker, Charleston Marine Containers, Inc., *Chair*
Steven Brower, Carolina Starches
Ben Cheatham, Carolina Starches
Darrell Edwards, Anchor Sign Inc.
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James Miller, LANXESS
Ron Paquette, Hubner Manufacturing, *Past Chair*
Mark Richards, The Richards Group
Joe Schady, Alpha Sheet Metal
Terry Shrum, Robert Bosch Corp.
David Sumoski, Nucor Steel
Rebecca Ufkes, UEC Electronics/Automation
Phil Wilson, Alcoa Mt. Holly



(Photo left) Rising eighth graders participated in the American LaFrance plant tour as part of the 2006 Trident Technical College "Manufacturing Summer Camp" program. Students attended the week-long camp July 10-14 and also toured Alcoa Mt. Holly and Cummins MerCruiser Diesel. Students learned about Computer Aided Design, Computer Aided Manufacturing, CNC Machining, and PLC and Robotic training, and they participated in team building exercises. The manufacturing summer camp is an annual program sponsored by Trident Technical College. Thank you to the local manufacturers who helped support this year's camp. For more information on how your company can get involved or support this initiative, contact Lloyd Kling at (843) 574-6491 or Lloyd.Kling@tridenttech.edu.

Meet the Newest LMC Members



American Paint Paddle / American Promotional Products Company is the leading supplier of promotional products, paint paddles, rulers, yardsticks, and other promotional wood products throughout the US and overseas. APP continues to be a leading vendor for the paint, home improvement, and specialty advertising industries. We think you'll be pleasantly surprised at how affordable our promotional products are.

American Promotional Products has been in business printing high quality rulers, yardsticks and paint paddles for over 16 years. They strive to deliver promotional products which help companies gain new customers and retain current ones. By offering high quality products at competitive prices, American Promotional Products has

grown steadily through the years.

American Paint Paddle is located at 3255 Fortune Drive, N. Charleston. Contact them at 843.767.5229 or sales@app-co.com. Visit them online at www.app-co.com.

PROTEGO® USA, Inc - Engineered Safety Solutions for Global Protection

PROTEGO® USA, Inc is the market leader for the design and manufacture of state-of-the-art flame arresters and vents that provide explosion protection to the pharmaceutical, chemical and petrochemical industries worldwide. PROTEGO® flame arresters are safety devices fitted to the opening of a vessel or installed within a piping system whose function is to prevent flame propagation whilst allowing vapor flow. PROTEGO® vents are installed on tanks that store liquids to relieve excess pressure or vacuum. PROTEGO® vents utilize innovative technology that significantly reduce vapor loss.

Located at 457 Jessen Lane, Suite G, in Charleston, SC, and headquartered in Braunschweig, Germany, PROTEGO® is the industry leader in explosion protection. For more information please visit their website at www.protego.com or contact them at 843-284-0300 or office@protego.com.



The local **DuPont Company** facility manufactures thermoplastics, primarily Crastin® PBT polyester resins and Hytre® polyester elastomer.

Hytre® thermoplastic polyester elastomers give the flexibility of rubbers, the strength of plastics and the processibility of thermoplastics. Hytre® is ideal for parts requiring excellent flex fatigue and broad use temperature. It is strongly resistant to tearing, flex-cut growth, creep and abrasion. Its mechanical properties provide strength, stiffness, and toughness.



The miracles of science™

DuPont Crastin® PBT thermoplastic polyester resins are based on polybutylene terephthalate. By making physical and technical modifications, a very wide range of products is available that are ideally suited to an enormous variety of industrial applications, including electronics, electrical, automotive, mechanical engineering, chemical and apparatus engineering, domestic and medical appliances and sporting goods. Among the many features of various Crastin® PBT grades are mechanical and physical properties of stiffness and toughness, heat resistance, friction and wear resistance, excellent surface finishes and good colorability.

DuPont is located at 3300 Cypress Gardens Road in Moncks Corner. Contact them at 843-797-9730 or visit online at www.dupont.com.



Locally owned and operated, **Windward Shutters & Windows, LLC**, has provided manufacturing, sales, and installation of hurricane protection since 1996. Windward offers consulting and design services, along with a complete product line for the individual or professional... for home or for business... from roll-down shutters to accordions... from Bahamas or Colonials, to simple storm panels.

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Windward has the resources and experience to save customers time and money on home protection projects, while providing the highest quality products from the best possible sources. Their friendly and knowledgeable sales team can help in deciding which shutter system is best.

Located at 462-D Wando Park Blvd. in Mt. Pleasant, Windward Shutters & Windows can be reached at 843-881-6262 or protect@windwardshutters.com. Visit them online at www.windwardshutters.com.

- Thursday, September 28, 8:00 a.m. - Force Protection Industries Inc. Summer Internship Program Overview/Plant Tour
- Thursday, October 5, 6:00-9:00 p.m. - LMC Annual Meeting & Dinner at the College Center at Trident Technical College
- October 3 - 5, 2006 - SCMA Workforce Protection Conference at the Spartanburg Marriott, Spartanburg, SC
- Wednesday, October 18, 8:30 a.m. - "Best Practice" OSHA Success Story Plant Tour at Curd Enterprises/Multiplastics

Learn more about these events and others online at www.lmcsc.org, or contact Jennifer DeWitt at 843-805-3010 or jdewitt@charlestonchamber.org. Advanced registration is strongly recommended for all events.



P.O. Box 975
 Charleston, SC 29402-0975
www.lmcsc.org

Serving Manufacturers in the Lowcountry and throughout South Carolina

Highlighting innovations in workforce development at the

**2006 LOWCOUNTRY MANUFACTURERS
 COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING & DIN-
 NER**

Thursday, October 5, 2006

6 - 7 p.m. Cocktail Reception & Facility Tours

7 - 9 p.m. Dinner & Program

College Center at the Complex for Economic Development at Trident Technical College

Keynote Speaker: Ms. Stacey Wagner, Managing Director, Center for Workforce Success; National Association of Manufacturers

*For more information or to register contact Jennifer DeWitt at 8403-805-3010 or jdewitt@charlestonchamber.org.
 Corporate tables and sponsorships available. Register online at www.lmcsc.org.*

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