

LMR Plastics Expands, Buys New Equipment



Sun Photo by Jim Feltman

Employees of LMR Plastics and company executives gathered Tuesday in front of a new 1,750-ton injection -molding press that has been installed at the company's facility on Industrial Road. The molding press is part of an expansion that includes a warehouse adjacent to the existing LMR plant. Shown from left to right in the front (center) row, are: Tom Ferguson, Greene County Partnership president; Watson Leonard, LMR vice president; Terry Leonard, LMR board chairman; Bob Leonard, president, CEO; Ivy Leonard, treasurer; and Mike Briggs, general manager.

Warehouse Added Adjacent To Plant On Industrial Rd.

Greeneville, TN – (Dec. 23, 2010)

BY Douglas Watson, Managing Editor

LMR Plastics, a supplier of plastic injection- molded products, has expanded its plant at 1609 Industrial Road.

The company said in a news release that it "has added additional large-tonnage injection-molding and related equipment to meet customers' demands."

LMR's new equipment is a further expansion by the company into the large-tonnage press range, increasing its capacity in the 1,750-ton, 720-ton, and 500-ton ranges.

"Additionally, the company is investing in additional automation to ensure that efficiencies can be further improved upon," the announcement said.

Also, LMR Plastics has acquired and renovated a warehouse located adjacent to its main production facility, which will include its "value-add" operations.

LMR, with 110 employees, said its "current plans call for the company to increase its employment base through 2012 by 25 or more employees over 2009 levels."

LEONARD COMMENTS

LMR President Bob Leonard said, "Our company has been fortunate in 2010 in securing additional business from current and new customers, as well as seeing our customers' production demands rebound from the 2009 downturn."

He continued, "Our team responded well in 2009 to the economic downturn by ensuring that we maintained our efficiencies as well as retaining our talented team-member base.

"Our performance puts us in a position to take advantage of some of the growth opportunities we are seeing with the improving economy," Leonard said.

NEW PRIMARY WAREHOUSE

The new facility, located next to LMR's main manufacturing facility, will function as the primary warehouse for finished goods.

Leonard said, "Previously, we were using a smaller warehouse that was located off-premises, requiring us to transport our finished goods.

"With this addition, we will have our goods and our staffing located on the same manufacturing campus, improving our efficiencies and allowing us room for our planned growth.

"Additionally, the new facility will have a designated area for value-add operations. Value-add operations represent additional enhancements to the plastic product that is done after the molding process."

Leonard added, "Our customers continue to request us to do more of the manufacturing process on their components. The designated value-add area will allow us to place a greater focus on these operations and enhance our growth potential."

NEW CUSTOMERS

With its expertise in plastic injection-molding, LMR Plastics said, it has established customers in power lawn-care products, filtration products, industrial controls, automotive, dental devices and telecommunications.

In addition to injection-molding, LMR Plastics said it "offers value-add operations including assembly, plastic welding (hot plate, ultrasonic, spin), hot stamping, pad printing and heat staking."

A privately-owned company, LMR Plastics was founded in 1973, and has operated under the current family ownership, which has been led by Bob Leonard and his father, Terry Leonard, since September 1996.

Copyright © 2010, The Greeneville Sun
<http://www.greenevillesun.com>