

Caterpillar

Caterpillar Logistics Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of Caterpillar Inc., is building a 750,000-square-foot parts distribution center in Waco, TX. The \$39 million facility is being built on a 77-acre site that Caterpillar owns between Bagby Road and Gateway Boulevard in Waco.

Construction is already under way and is expected to be completed by Jan. 30, 2009.

The Waco distribution center will employ 140 to 180 people, increase network capacity and provide primary aftermarket parts support to six Caterpillar dealers in North America.

The warehouse will store heavy-equipment parts such as oil filters, gears, undercarriage components, wheel wells and windshield wipers en route to dealers in Texas, Louisiana, Kansas and Arkansas.

Currently most parts are routed through a single global entry point in Morton, IL. Through this new plan, the Waco distribution center will also handle inbound processing of parts directly from suppliers. Services at existing Cat facilities in Pennsylvania and Colorado will be expanded to do the

same. When complete, these process improvements will get parts on the shelf faster and improve Cats' ability to fill dealer orders.

The build-to-suit will have 32-foot ceiling heights, 35 dock doors and 15,725 square feet of office space. The facility will be set up so materials received at the distribution center can flow in and out of the facility without being held in inventory. 309.675.1000, catrequest@cat.com

Volvo Compact Equipment

In order to increase volume and improve profitability, Volvo Compact Equipment will begin production of backhoe loaders in Mexico with production to begin in early 2009 in the existing Volvo Bus facilities in Tultitlán, Mexico.

The facility will produce the center-mount backhoe loaders, models BL 60 and BL 70, which are currently produced in Wroclaw, Poland and mainly sold to North America. Initially, the production will be assembly of CKD-kits delivered from the Wroclaw, Poland backhoe loader factory.

With a production base in Mexico, Volvo Compact Equipment will be able

to profitably grow backhoe loader volumes in Latin America as those economies develop.

Furthermore, the Volvo Bus operations in Mexico have available assembly space and paint-shop capacity, which means that the start-up investment is limited. Volvo Bus Mexico has the capabilities and the team to support this expansion of the Volvo Group operations in Mexico and there is a history of successful cooperation between Volvo Compact Equipment and Volvo Bus in its shared facility in Wroclaw, Poland.

As for the Wroclaw operations, moving the center-mount machines to Mexico will release capacity to meet increased demand for side-shift machines, which are mainly sold in markets outside of the Americas. Wroclaw will remain the core plant for the Backhoe Loader Product Area and will, in the start-up phase, supply CKD-kits to the production in Mexico. 828.650.2000, volvo.com

GEI Consultants

Geotechnical, environmental and water resources engineering consulting services firm GEI Consultants Inc.,



has hired Nancy A. Straub, P.E., LEED AP, as a geotechnical/environmental engineer in its Washington, DC, office.

Straub brings experience in geotechnical, environmental, and forensic expertise with tunnels, pipelines, and buildings with both shallow and deep foundations, transportation infrastructure, earth retaining systems, problem soils, and a variety of ground improvement techniques.

She holds a masters degree in geotechnical engineering from the University of Maryland, and a bachelors of science in geotechnical and environmental engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. A registered professional engineer in Virginia, she is also a Professional Member of the Chesapeake Chapter of Engineers Without Borders. 888.GEI-WORX, geiconsultants.com

Hyundai

Hyundai Heavy Industries Europe opened a branch office on July 18 in

Bracknell, UK, to support customers and dealers throughout the British Isles.

The new branch office will provide a centralized administration center and point of contact for Hyundai's construction equipment and forklift truck businesses in the UK. In addition to the new facility, last year Hyundai opened a stock facility at Tilbury Docks in the UK to shorten delivery times. 82.52.202.7955, hyundai-ce.com



HOBAS Pipe USA

HOBAS Pipe USA has promoted Bijan Khamanian to division manager-West. This newly created position covers the U.S. from the Pacific Northwest to Southern California and east to Colorado, plus Hawaii.

He will coordinate the activities of all the western area managers from his office in Costa Mesa, CA.

Khamanian graduated from the University of Washington in Seattle with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and began his career in the pipe industry as a senior applications engineer. He then expanded his career into sales management while continuing with his responsibility for product specification. He joined HOBAS in 1997.

Contact Khamanian at 949.795.5800 or email: bkhamanian@hobaspipe.com.

ADS

HDPE manufacturer, Advanced Drainage Systems Inc. (ADS), has received the unique distinction in the underground drainage industry of a 100-year service life approval for its N-12 corrugated HDPE pipe. The designation, given by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), approves N-12 pipe for use in most FDOT applications.

Utilizing the most extensive testing protocol in the pipe industry, FDOT granted approval for 18- to 48-inch ADS N-12 pipe under the "Class II" 100-year service life designation.

"The test results in Florida prove there is an increasing level of confidence in the use and performance of HDPE pipe," Joe Chlapaty, chairman and chief executive officer of ADS said. "Our goal is to deliver a product that will still be in the ground for generations to come and performing its intended purpose. We've always been confident that our products will last forever, and these tests simply serve as additional evidence to that fact. As with all ADS products, our customers can be assured that our HDPE pipe is providing a high quality, value enhanced solution to meet their underground drainage needs."

According to ADS, the approval in Florida will mean significant growth among the company's public transportation infrastructure projects.

"We sell pipe day in and day out in Florida, but this approval will open numerous doors in terms of growth for ADS and our N-12 product line," said Bob Klein, vice president of Sales and Customer Relations for ADS. "By manufacturing pipe within the state of Florida and keeping our product as close to our customers as possible, it will significantly reduce delivery time and cost. The ability to expand the applications of N-12 pipe will advance the industry as we know it today." 800.537.9520, ads-pipe.com

Doosan Infracore Intl.

Doosan Infracore International recently moved into its new global headquarters in Charlotte, NC. The

28,272-square-foot location is situated at 9335 Harris Corners Parkway, just off I-77 and W.T. Harris Blvd. The new headquarters will house approximately 100 industry leaders in the engineering, manufacturing and marketing of construction equipment.

Doosan Infracore International was established following the \$4.9 billion acquisition by its parent company, South Korean-based Doosan Infracore, of Bobcat, Utility Equipment and Attachments from Ingersoll Rand Company, Ltd.

The November 2007 agreement marked the largest overseas acquisition in South Korean history. Today, the three entities, Bobcat, Doosan Infracore Portable Power and DII Attachments, are operating as individual businesses of Doosan Infracore International.

Doosan Infracore late last year announced the purchase of a 475,000-square-foot facility in Statesville, where the company expects to employ more than 400 for Doosan Infracore Portable Power. Operations for Bobcat, the world's largest compact construction equipment business, will remain in West Fargo, ND.

With the completion of the acquisition, Doosan Infracore became one of the top seven global construction equipment manufacturers. Today, the company has a combined network of over 3,500 dealers worldwide and 20 manufacturing plants in the U.S., Europe and China.

In other news, Scott R. Nelson has been named chief executive officer of Doosan Infracore International. The appointment was made by Yongmaan Park, chairman of Doosan Infracore, parent company of DII.

Nelson will continue as worldwide president of Bobcat Company while serving as DII chief executive officer. His chief executive officer responsibilities include all aspects of the global business for DII. Nelson replaces David Rowles. With over 20 years of experience with Bobcat, Nelson most recently served as president of Bobcat Europe. Prior to that, he was president of Bobcat Americas. 704.597.3600, diicorp.com

Farwest Corrosion Control

Farwest Corrosion Control Co. and its pipeline division, Corrosion Control Products Co., welcomes Ron Keithley as the new district manager for Farwest's Bakersfield, CA, office and warehouse facility. Keithley's background is in engineering, quality control, testing and construction services; and he is an alumni of Bakersfield College and General Motors University. He will be responsible for the Bakersfield operation, which provides cathodic protection materials and equipment, as well as construction and engineering services. 310.532.9524, farwestcorrosion.com

Interplastic Corp.

Mike Roberts has joined Interplastic's Thermoset Resins Division as a sales representative responsible for managing all sales activity for North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle.

He brings over 15 years of experience in sales and project management to the company. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma. Prior to joining the Thermoset Resins Division, Roberts was a sales representative for Interplastic's North American Composites Division. 651.481.6860, interplastic.com ■