

# NEWSPRENT

A PRENT CORPORATION PUBLICATION

**SPECIAL EDITION  
2018**



## 50 Years of Thermoforming Excellence

Many of Prent Corporation's successes came from founder Jack Pregont's belief that true thermoforming excellence could only come from controlling the entire process—including machines, material and manpower. This vertical integration led to the establishment of:

### Product Development and Tooling Capabilities

To fully meet the needs of his customers, Jack established complete in-house design and tooling capabilities soon after starting his company in 1967. Under President and CEO Joe Pregont's leadership in 1985, Prent began designing and building thermoforming machines and secondary operations equipment for all of its facilities. By building its own equipment, Prent is more responsive to customer requirements and ensures its manufacturing procedures are uniform and repeatable.

### Plastics Extrusion

Not satisfied with the capabilities of commercially available plastic stock to perform to the demands of its complex designs, Prent began extruding its own plastic. Today, Prent's original extrusion department is a separate company (GOEX Corporation) and one of the largest sheet and roll stocks manufacturers in North America.

**PRENT**  
celebrating  
**50** years

## Prent Corporation...Then and Now

Jack Pregont founded Prent Corporation in November of 1967 with his earnings from thermoforming cake decorations at his parents' bakery. He started Prent in an old silo factory on Harding Street in Janesville, Wisconsin, and grew the company to unparalleled success.

*Pictured is a comparison of Prent's plant floor from then—1969 at the Harding St. location (left)—to now, 2017 at Prent's headquarters on Kennedy Rd. (right).*

Prent is a privately held, family-owned company. Joe Pregont became President and CEO when his father Jack retired in 1985, and today, Joe's three children Rachel, Joe, and Michael, are actively involved in Prent Corporation and its sister company GOEX Corporation.

Prent has become the leading, global manufacturer of thermoformed packaging for the medical, electronics and consumer products industries.

Inside this special anniversary edition of **NEWSPRENT**, you'll find a timeline of Prent's successes over the last 50 years.



**THEN: 1968**  
Pharmaceutical Tray

**NOW: 2014**  
Medical Tray

**PRENT**  
THERMOFORMING

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If you would like to be put on our mailing list, please call (608) 754-0276.

[www.prent.com](http://www.prent.com)

# PRENT

Past and Present

## The next 50 years...

Since its inception in 1967, Prent Corporation has grown to provide custom thermoform plastic medical packaging, electronics and consumer packaging, plastic automation trays and other high-quality plastic product solutions. Our turnkey worldwide facilities allow us to be a preferred, single-source supplier

### 1948

Jack Pregont's interest in plastics begins when he reads how celluloid ping pong balls are made in *Popular Mechanics*. Jack is always searching for pieces of plastic to mold and uses his mother's kitchen oven as a heat source, much to her dismay. Most of Jack's early projects are bakery-related, which evolve into a line of mail-order cake decorating novelties that help him finance Prent Corporation.

### 1967

Jack Pregont purchases and renovates a 10,000 sq. ft. building on Harding St. in Janesville, that housed a silo factory, and acquires two used forming machines that he updates to begin Prent Corporation. He employs 15 and specializes in thermoformed packaging, injection molding, and decorating. One of his first customers is LeMans Corporation (Snobil Oil).



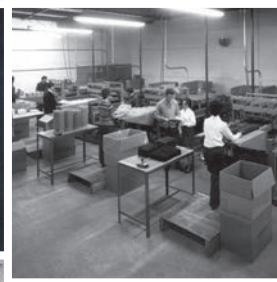
### 1973

Glade Air Freshener project begins with SC Johnson Wax; Through 1981, Prent makes over half a billion air fresheners.



### 1973

Christmas ornament packaging project begins and continues through 2018.

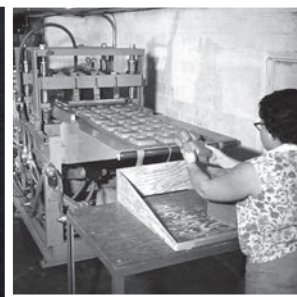


### 1983

Plastic sheet extrusion begins at Harding St. and moves to Foster Ave. in 1990 as GOEX.

### 1968

Part-time mini-shift employee production begins.



### 1969

Prent's Harding St. manufacturing floor; Facility expands to 16,000 sq. ft., adds 20 more employees, and opens model and tool department.

### 1971

Prent receives its first award for packaging excellence.

### 1974

Sales double every year since opening in 1967 and employment reaches 100. To accommodate Prent's tremendous growth, Jack Pregont moves his operation to Kennedy Rd. and later expands the north building by 40,000 sq. ft. in 1978, and by 20,000 sq. ft. in 1984, and expands the south building by 30,000 sq. ft. in 1983.

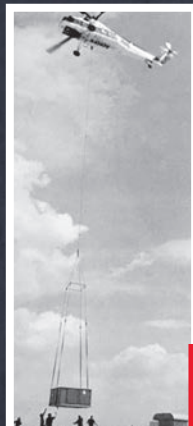
that ensures global thermoform package delivery from our facilities in North and Central America, China, Europe, Malaysia, Singapore and Mexico. All facilities are ISO 9001 certified and include Class 8 Clean Room environments equipped with matched, state-of-the-art thermoformers, meticulously engineered at our Worldwide Machine Build Facility to ensure uniform, superior thermoforming and high-quality plastic packages. Prent ensures identical, high-quality products delivered straight to our customers' docks, on time, anywhere in the world. Prent built a company based on people, LEAN initiatives, continuous improvement and statistical process control. Our effort to

## 1985

Jack Pregont retires and his son Joe Pregont becomes President of Prent Corporation. Joe graduated from UW-Stout with a packaging degree and joined the company full time in 1981. Jack, and his wife Carol, stayed active on Prent's Board of Directors for decades.

## 1988

Prent is first North American thermoformer to install climate control.



## 1998

In Janesville, first-class Clean Room begins operations.

## 1998

Six Sigma 1.33 Cpk is introduced.



## 1985

Under Joe Pregont's leadership, Prent begins manufacturing thermoformers.



## 1980

Prent's manufacturing floor (above)

## 1989

Jack Pregont named Thermoformer of the Year by the Society of Plastics Engineers.



## 1990

Prent model shop (left)



## 2001

Joe Pregont named Thermoformer of the Year, 12 years after Jack, making them the first father and son to ever win this award.

## 1998

Prent Malaysia opens and receives ISO 9002 Certification.



## 1988

Prent introduces Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining for tooling (shown above).

## 1993

Prent becomes first North American thermoformer to be ISO 9000 Certified.

## 1993

Prent opens its first satellite facility in Flagstaff, Arizona and is recognized in 1995 by the City of Flagstaff for pioneering environmental leadership.



develop a “one common system” concept has helped us realize our strategic goals globally. Our focus on growing our businesses—Prent, GOEX and whatever the future holds—centers around maintaining our family-focused and family-owned culture, which allows us greater flexibility when investing in our successes. We have the third generation working in our business, which ensures our future. Jack would be proud of what his dream business model has become, all the while keeping his core values in Prent’s people and the business of thermoforming. We thank our customers and our entire Prent family for their continued support.

## 2016

Prent introduces a multi-million dollar Tool Room with a 24/7, lights out system for milling tools with the highest accuracy.

## 2016

Prent receives its 16th WorldStar Award for medical package design.

## 2015

GOEX builds new state-of-the-art plastic sheet extrusion facility in Janesville.



## 2018

GOEX adds 45,000 sq. ft. more space.

## 2018

Prent builds new Clean Rooms.



## 2016

Joe Pregont, pictured with the next generation of Prent and GOEX leaders, Michael, Joe Jr. and Rachel, receives Lifetime Achievement award from Forward Janesville, Inc.



## 2018

Prent employs nearly 2,000 worldwide.

## 2005

Prent China begins production in Shanghai and becomes the region’s premier, full-service thermoformer; Prent builds a new facility in China in 2009 and expands operations in 2012.

## 2007

Machine Build Facility opens in Janesville; Prent designs and builds its own thermoforming machines and operations equipment.

## 2006

Prent Puerto Rico opens to serve Virgin Islands and Central America.

## 2008

Prent receives ISO certification for all North American facilities ensuring identical manufacturing capabilities everywhere.

## 2010

Prent opens a thermoform packaging facility in Denmark to supply the needs of European medical device manufacturers.

## 2014

Prent opens its global thermoforming facility in Costa Rica to serve the packaging needs of medical device companies moving to the area.

# PRENT

People

## Prent's Employees Reflect on 50 Years

"I started at the Harding St. Plant where we assembled air fresheners. So many of us had small children and used the job as a place to get out of the house for a few hours a day! I've been a min-shifter for 42 years and have enjoyed the variety of products we form. I've learned to be open for anything always because changes happen daily. I am excited that Prent continues to grow."

—Dottie Frusher, Inspector/Packer, Hired 1976

"It has been both fun and interesting watching Prent grow and evolve. The speed of our processes is one of the biggest changes I've seen in the industry. I've learned that obtaining the best quality should be a goal of ours with everything we do. I am proud to be a part of the success of this company."

— Dan Driscoll, Mechanic, Hired 1979

"I am proud of the types of medical, retail and technical products Prent produces. The company makes a difference in these areas. It is exciting to see Prent established as a family business and to see more of the family involved with different aspects of the company."

—Dorothiann Mead, Inspector/Packer, Hired 1983

"When I started at Prent, Janesville was the only location. The building was much smaller and GOEX was in the back of the same building. Since I started in 1986, GOEX expanded into their own building. Now, Prent has expanded to many locations around the world. Prent has always reinvested into the company with new computers, software, and machinery. I have visited other companies and Prent is second to none with its cleanliness and its working environment."

—Darren Hamilton, CNC Programmer, Hired 1986

"It is interesting to see how much Prent has expanded both locally and globally, and how much the industry has changed with robotics. Some things have changed, but a lot have remained the same. People are promoted from within. It's a nice place to work."

—Deb Beers, Lead Quality Associate, Hired 1992

"Prent has so many awards that most companies will never match. Seeing articles in newspapers and magazines really makes me proud to be a part of this company. Prent has always adapted to growth by making improvements—facility renovations, new facilities, designing and building its own equipment, introducing robots, constant improvements to tooling, and training employees to adapt to changes that are required in a changing industry."

—Daryl Good, Pilot Technician, Hired 1993

# PRENT

Products

## Prent's Production Evolves

Thousands of different custom plastic packages are now manufactured at the Janesville facility, which also houses Prent's corporate offices. Over the years, these packages have evolved from game trays, medical detail trays and simple retail applications, to specialized medical and diagnostic packaging, multi-panel fold-ups and highly technical electronics, and automotive applications. Some of the many products Prent has produced over the years are featured below.



1960s  
Consumer



1970s  
Consumer



1980s  
Medical



1990s  
Retail



2000s  
Retail



2010s  
Electronics

Prent Corporation has grown to provide custom thermoform plastic medical packaging, electronics and consumer packaging, plastic automation trays and other high-quality plastic product solutions.

## Sheet Extrusion Begins

Prent entered into sheet extrusion in 1983, to meet product requirements not commercially available to the market. Prent converted the Harding Street facility into a plastic extrusion operation known as GOEX.

Today, GOEX is the industry leader in extruding a wide variety of resins into quality, custom, rigid plastic sheet and roll stock products.

# PRENT

## Perspective



2225 Kennedy Road  
Janesville, WI 53545

A MESSAGE FROM

**JOSEPH PREGONT**

PRENT CORPORATION  
PRESIDENT AND CEO



For as long as I can remember, I've always wanted to be a part of Prent Corporation. In 1985, my role as an employee changed abruptly when I was appointed President and CEO at age 26, after my father retired from day-to-day operations due to health issues. He continued to be my closest adviser over the next 25 years. When I took over, the single most important element of our company was an excellent, dedicated group of people that made up the Prent team. Our 33-year journey has been exciting and beneficial for us all. We've expanded our company from 1 to 10 manufacturing facilities—soon to be 11—around the world. We employ nearly 2,000 people worldwide and will continue as a family-owned and operated business with the third generation actively involved in leadership roles at both Prent and GOEX corporations, assuring a smooth transition for the future. We have aggressive plans to continue to grow our global footprint and advance our technology. I am grateful for the journey and look forward to the next 50 years of growth and success.

# PRENT

## Facilities

**Prent's manufacturing operations officially began in 1967** when Jack Pregont hired 15 employees, and purchased and renovated a 10,000 sq. ft. silo manufacturing plant on Harding Street near downtown Janesville, Wis. **In July 1973, Prent broke ground in Janesville's Kennedy Road Industrial Park** for a facility designed specifically for thermoforming. The new plant began running production in 1974 and has undergone several renovations to increase space and improve performance and visual appeal.

As Prent's customer demand grew, Prent expanded into new American and international markets. **Prent's Flagstaff, Arizona facility began production in 1993.** Prent Flagstaff serves customers in the southwestern region of the United States and Mexico.

**Established in 1998, Prent Malaysia** has an international plastic design team, a large facility for thermoform tool build, and quality control operations to ensure full-service thermoformed packaging capabilities for its Asia-based customers. **In 2004, Prent opened its Asia headquarters in Singapore.**

**Prent Shanghai began production in 2005** and is now the region's premier, full-service thermoformer. **Prent built a new facility in China in 2009 and expanded its current operations in 2012.**

**Opened in 2006, Prent's Puerto Rico facility** serves the needs of medical device and pharmaceutical companies located in the Virgin Islands region and Central America.

**Prent opened a state-of-the-art facility in Holbaek, Denmark in 2010** to support customers in the European medical thermoform market.

**In 2014, Prent opened a facility in Heredia, Costa Rica.** The facility is located in Costa Rica to service customers located in Central America.

**In 2018, Prent breaks ground in Tijuana, Mexico.**

# PRENT

## Honors

Prent has received many industry awards for exceptional design and innovation, including an unprecedented 16 premier WorldStar Awards in pharmaceutical and medical packaging—more than any other company in the world. A WorldStar is only awarded to those packages that already won recognition in a national competition and are compared to similar packages from around the world. Some of Prent's significant industry achievements include:

- 2016** FJI Lifetime Achievement Award to President/CEO Joe Pregont
  - 2016** Prent receives its 16th WorldStar Award
  - 2007** SPE Lifetime Achievement Award to Founder Jack Pregont
  - 2001** SPE Thermoformer of the Year Award to President/CEO Joe Pregont
  - 1998** 1st U.S. thermoformer with all machine operators certified by SPI
  - 1997** Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award
  - 1993** 1st Thermoformer ISO 9001 Certified in North America
  - 1989** SPE Thermoformer of the Year Award to Founder Jack Pregont
- For a complete list of Prent's awards, visit [www.prent.com/news/awards](http://www.prent.com/news/awards).