

NEWS **PRENT**



Product Development Cycle Speeds WorldStar Winner to Market

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PAYING
It
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101
Open for Registration

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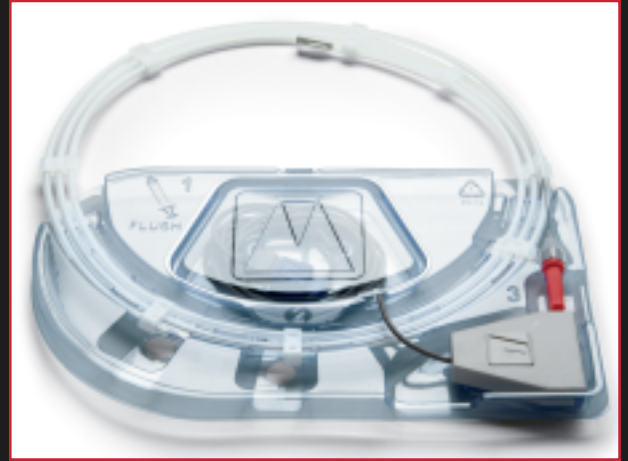
Prent Corporation was recently honored with an unprecedented 15th WorldStar Award from the World Packaging Organization (WPO). It was for a thermoformed diagnostic guide wire package created for Volcano Corporation, the global leader in intravascular imaging for coronary and peripheral therapeutic devices and physiology. According to Eric Henderson, Volcano's Packaging Engineer tasked with overseeing



North American Sales Manager, who further notes Prent's comprehensive Product Development Process is entirely without charge to the customer. As with all our customers, the process of creating that "just-right package" to meet Volcano's needs began in our Product Development Department. "This is where our award-winning International Design Teams work with the latest technology to transform a customer's package vision to reality," explains Schaffner. "Skilled designers, tool engineers, CNC programmers and machinists all play critical roles."

Here are just some of the benefits Henderson says helped make Prent's Product Development Process so smooth:

- Prent was easy to contact, responding quickly to our calls.



- Designs were excellent.
- Changes were made in days—not weeks.
- Fast-turnaround of prototype trays provided tangible parts for decision-making.
- Prent had the flexibility to make design changes even while on the thermoforming machines.



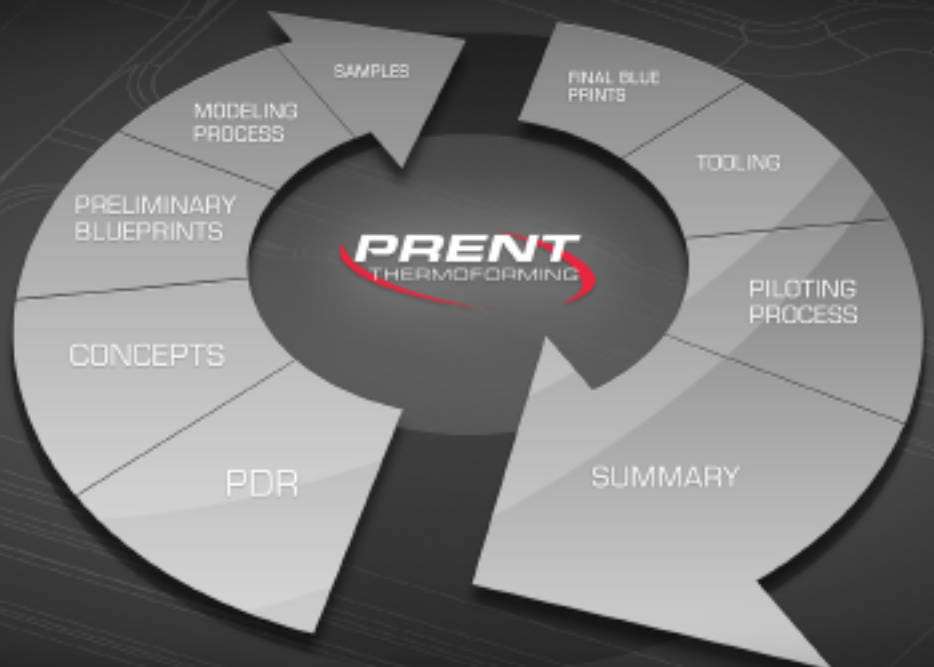
the project, "Prent's innovative solution and technical expertise was impressive.

"We chose the right company for the job, with the right package design engineers. It's been a breath of fresh air to work with Prent," raves Henderson.

"I think our level of customer service and attention to detail took Volcano Corporation by surprise," admits Tom Schaffner, Prent's

“We chose the right company for the job, with the right package design engineers. It’s been a breath of fresh air to work with Prent.”

– Eric Henderson, Packaging Engineer, Volcano Corporation





Have You Attended a Thermoforming 101 Symposium?

For well over a decade, Prent's Thermoforming 101 Symposiums have been winning enthusiastic reviews from Prent's medical, electronics and consumer products customers.

It's been a win-win experience for everyone who's gone through the sessions. Customers gain insider-knowledge about elevating their thermoform package design, engineering, quality control, validation, plastic choices and more, thus ensuring their packaging processes yield top results.

Although we've conducted Symposiums at customers' facilities—as well as Prent locations around the world—most companies prefer to attend Symposiums at our Headquarters in Wisconsin. This gives them the opportunity to see for themselves the most comprehensive thermoforming services anywhere in the world, including our award-winning Product Development Process, quality and validation capabilities, custom plastic extrusion resources and our one-of-a-kind International Thermoforming Machine Build Facility.

A typical Symposium is conducted by Prent's Division Heads who review the entire thermoforming process including design guidelines, prototyping, variables to be controlled, expectations, defect prevention, quality reviews, statistical controls, and much more.

Prent staff also help open participants' eyes to new possibilities. Validation protocols are just one example. Often protocols vary within one company, from location-to-location or engineer-to-engineer. We've helped companies optimize protocols to assist them in making the best educated-decisions on validation protocols.

Companies frequently bring dozens of employees to our two-day Symposiums, often gathering staff from around the world or multiple divisions to gain similar knowledge about thermoform packaging. Participants include packaging engineers and designers, product designers, global procurement staff, as well as quality and validation personnel. One company finds Thermoforming 101 so helpful it sends all its new hires to a Symposium.

Sometimes customers also use our Thermoforming 101 classes as an opportunity for their groups to conduct their own division summits on the front or back-end of the Symposium. Prent's spacious campus meeting facilities offer privacy, plus state-of-the-art technology to easily include additional staff from around the world.

All Prent customers are invited to attend a Symposium. For more information contact your Prent representative.

“Just wanted to thank you for inviting us to Thermoforming 101. It was like seeing an episode of *How It's Made* up-close. All three of us had seen thermoforming only in books before our visit to Prent. Seeing everything in real life was very helpful. I also appreciate the fact that you took us through your Quality systems and defect rectification process.”

– Senior Packaging Engineer,
Global Medical Device Company

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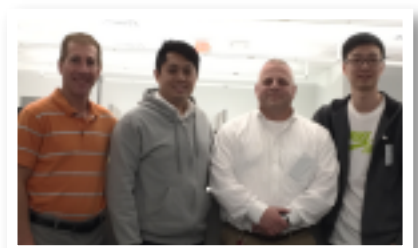
Global IT Training Intensifies



• **ROSS ERP:** Prent employees from Janesville, Malaysia, Denmark and China recently gathered in Shanghai to attend three days of training in ROSS enterprise resource planning. The realities of globalization means Prent must continuously evaluate and link our global manufacturing strategies.

• **INFINITY QS SEMINAR:** With more than 200+ looking on during the recent Annual Infinity QS user's seminar in Beijing—Prent China QA Manager Sean Xiao accepted Infinity's Quality Star Award for Prent's extensive use of the SPC software application.

• **MASTER CONTROL SYSTEM:** Quality Assurance Engineers from Prent China and Malaysia traveled to our World Headquarters for advanced Master Control Software Training, conducted by colleagues successfully using the document control system. Pictured above are left to right: Darren Schroeder (Quality Engineer—Janesville), Wong Peng Yee (Quality Engineer—Malaysia), Dave Henry (Director of Quality Assurance—Janesville) and Simon Lu (Quality Engineer—China).



Wisconsin Governor Praises Prent for Paying It Forward



Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, above left, congratulates Prent President and CEO Joseph T. Pregont during a recent visit to our World Headquarters. He praised the company's "Paying It Forward" scholarship, internship and curriculum programs, citing it as one reason Wisconsin's manufacturing economy is growing.

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Multiple Schools Benefiting from Prent's Inter-Disciplinary Guidance

Information Technology: For nearly two decades Prent has been providing Information Technology curriculum guidance to Blackhawk Technical College, as well as internships and real-life projects required for Networking Degree students. Last year, for instance, we had students research and test Help Desk Applications and then make recommendations to Prent. Recently, Steve Zimmerman, Prent's Chief Information Officer, received the college's Community Service Award for his contributions to its IT programs.

Product Development: The University of Wisconsin-Stout is another school

which has been benefiting from Prent's assistance for 20+ years including scholarships, internships, co-op program and curriculum guidance for nearly 300 students enrolled in its packaging, industrial design and other programs.

Engineering: Today, Prent is developing a strong relationship with the University of Wisconsin-Platteville's Engineering Department, enabling students to experience first-hand the technological advances in today's manufacturing environment and the types of jobs now available to recent engineering grads.

Robotics: For the past two years, Prent's been partnering with high school robotics programs from around the Janesville area, assisting in the creation of robots that are entered into competitions against schools from all around the USA.

International Students: In addition, students from all over the world stop by Prent during their organized tours of USA manufacturing facilities. Recently, over a dozen undergraduate students from the Packaging Center at the Korean Institute of Industrial Technology visited Prent.

"Prent Corporation is an outstanding member of Wisconsin's growing manufacturing industry. Through the Prent "Paying It Forward" educational programs, the company is proactively building a stronger workforce for Wisconsin by creating highly trained manufacturing employees."

– Scott Walker, Wisconsin Governor

2014 A YEAR IN REVIEW

2014 was An Outstanding Year

2014 was an outstanding year for Prent Corporation Worldwide, according to Joseph T. Pregont, Prent President and CEO. We saw growth of our expertise in the thermoforming industry through improved facilities, equipment—and most of all—our personnel skills. As we ushered in the New Year, we were stronger and more capable than ever.

I am extremely proud of everyone at Prent around the world who help us meet our goals of being the best we can be. We are looking forward to 2015 and beyond.

Some of our highlights:

- ★ Led by our Global Sales team, we have effectively been leveraging our international footprint and recorded sales with double digit growth.
- ★ We added many new customers, as well as increased business with existing customers.
- ★ Our production efficiencies were the best ever.
- ★ Our design group won its 15th WorldStar design award.
- ★ We designed and built a record number of tools worldwide.
- ★ Prent Costa Rica, Malaysia and Shanghai all gained ISO13485 certification.
- ★ We continued moving forward on refitting Prent Janesville's facilities with faster, more flexible equipment.
- ★ We improved overall quality, focusing on zero defects.
- ★ We had a 50% increase in the number of shipments, with over a 99.98% on time delivery.
- ★ Cross-functional training of best practices focused on efficiency and quality.
- ★ Design, quality and manufacturing systems were harmonized globally.

Planning for Continued Global Growth

Recently, Prent's senior management from around the globe gathered at our World Headquarters for intensive Strategic Planning sessions aimed toward greater international growth in 2015 and beyond.



Janesville Retirement's



MYRA VINCENT

Now that she's retired after 41 years as an Inspector/Packer, Myra Vincent really misses everyone she used to work with. But, she doesn't miss getting up at 4 AM! She's keeping busy around the house and traveling up north.

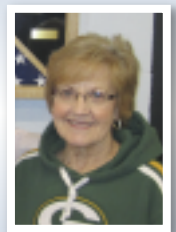
SUSAN KNOBBE

Susan Knobbe recently retired after nearly nine years as an Inspector/Packer. Travel plans include a Hawaiian cruise, plus visits to Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon.



DIANE BUTTS

Retiring after six years as an Inspector/Packer is Diane Butts, who considers Prent "the best place to work in Janesville." She plans to spend time with her eight grandkids and travel.



BETTY ZASTOUPIL

Congratulations to Betty Zastoupil on her retirement after nearly 31 years as an Inspector/Packer.

Policing Baghdad



Prent Janesville Manufacturing Engineer Tom Simmons was just 17—fresh-faced and right out of high school—when he enlisted in the military as an Army Scout.

With a dream of becoming an engineer but no money to pay for it, he jumped at the chance of taking advantage of the GI Bill. And enlisting as an Army Scout offered more GI college money than just about any job he could sign up for.

Rolling into Baghdad 2003

Little would Tom Simmons realize that two years after enlisting—9/11 would occur. Immediately after the Marines first stormed Baghdad in 2003, Tom Simmons' unit followed right behind. Although trained as an Army Scout to perform reconnaissance deep into enemy territory, he found his job duties quickly change when he entered an urban environment.

"Initially we were assigned guard duty for follow on supply convoys," explains Tom, a Manufacturing Engineer at our World Headquarters. "But when we reached Baghdad, our assignment changed to ensure the peace in our section of Sadr City, an area of Baghdad with about one million residents."

However, believed to be residing in Sadr City was an estimated 30,000 Iraqi soldiers who had discarded their uniforms and abandoned their vehicles in the desert fields along the highway as the US military entered the city.

Neighbor or Terrorist?

"These soldiers blended right into the populous and we didn't know what to expect," reports Tom. "We had to learn on the fly how to act as police officers, while remembering we were in a combat situation. It wasn't uncommon for us to get involved in neighbor and property disputes."

As just one example—his unit organized a 3 AM night raid on a home believed to house six terrorists, rocket launchers and machine guns. "When we burst in," he says, "it turned out to be a grandfather and six kids. The neighbors didn't like them. Petty things like that." Another evening, a local leader invited the unit to dinner at his house. Rotating guard duties outside, the soldiers were served in a room with only floor pillows and a large serving platter of food in the middle. Everyone ate off that platter with their fingers.

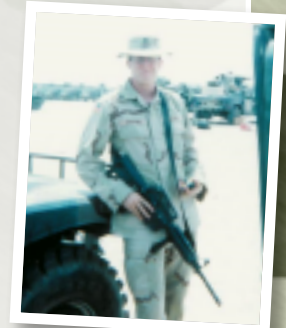
"The dinner was a win-win for all of us," notes Tom. "His neighbors saw that the American soldiers liked him. He gained political clout. We showed the neighbors we wanted to be their friends and help. The security we provided the neighborhood allowed families to go back to church or their mosque, the poor to receive food assistance and residents to go out at night."

His secondary objective was to find weapons caches and terrorists cells. While patrolling the city, children would often throw rocks, while others might shoot at his unit. "Unfortunately to protect ourselves, we had to over-react," he explains. "We had to be aggressive and come out of the vehicles in force and get in their face."

Extremely Primitive Living Conditions

Living conditions for Tom and the initial wave of soldiers were extremely primitive. His unit lived in a simple, empty building that once belonged to the Iraqi government, but became Camp War Eagle. "We had no electricity, no running water, toilets, beds, mattresses, hot food, (only MREs for 5 months), TVs, movies. Nothing," he says shaking his head. "We made bunks out of shelving units and used buckets and blocks to make short tables and chairs. The only way to recharge batteries was with our Humvees."

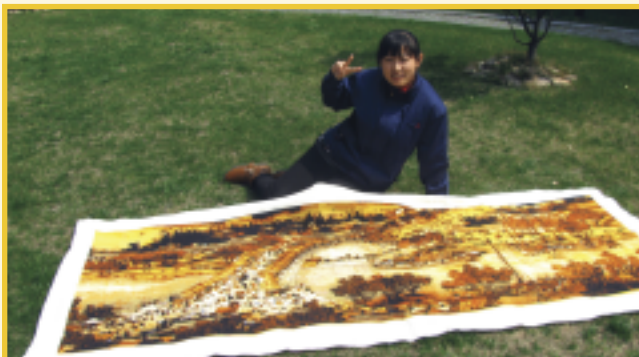
Upon discharge as a Specialist (E-4), Tom used his GI Bill to get his Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Milwaukee School of Engineering. This summer he will again use the GI Bill to begin his Master's in Engineering Management at University of Wisconsin-Madison. He and his wife, Emily, a CPA, live in Stoughton.



CHINA

Women Employees Showcase Accomplishments

In conjunction with International Women's Day, Prent China's female employees organized a Photo Gallery displaying special events in their lives. Among the many interesting accomplishments was a spectacularly elegant embroidery of the well-known Chinese painting *Ascending the River of Qingming Festival* made by MA Deng Yanzi. Taking two years to complete, Deng's embroidered masterpiece captures the daily life of people living around 1000 AD. The original painting is a national treasure and often referred to as China's Mona Lisa. Simply amazing work, Deng.



Team Building Challenge

To enhance staff teamwork and ease the transition of new employees, Prent China recently organized its second successful team-building exercise for 2014. Participating were over 40 staff members, including eight new employees.



Taking a Break

Prent China employees recently enjoyed an excursion to Mount Yu and Shang Lake at Changshu of Jiangsu province. It was a perfect place to relax, enjoy nature and take a break from computers and machines.



●●● MALAYSIA ●●●

Employees of the Year

Congratulations to Prent Malaysia's "Employees of the Year" who were recently recognized for their outstanding capabilities, responsibilities and attitude. Left: Ng Cheng Wei (CAM Engineer, Design & Tooling), Right: Siti Nur Baiyah Binti Abd Gani (MA, Manufacturing).



Annual Party Fun!

At Prent Malaysia's recent Annual Dinner Dance more than 160 employees gathered at the Grand Paragon Hotel to celebrate the year-end with playful skits. Because the theme for the evening was "Mad Hatters Night," employees attended topped with self-made hats assembled from only recycled or recyclable materials.



And the Winners Are.....

The evening's winning Mad Hatters were these six imaginative employees who matched their Mad Hats to their colorful costumes! Also winners that night were four Nepalese employees—calling themselves "Bad Boyz Entertainment"—who won "Best Performance" for their hip-hop dancing.

ROCK N' ROBOTS

6 • *The excitement and cheering is expected to once again be over-the-top this winter as 3,000 teams—made up of 75,000 high school students from all over the USA—compete in Recycle Rush FIRST robotics.*

It's a competition of the mind, where students construct and control robots to perform a function. Last year robots had to scoop up a ball, make a basket, block shots or even take other 'bots out of the competition. This year the robots will be rushing to fill and recycle totes.

It's all part of the FIRST Robotics Competition inspiring high school students to discover and develop a passion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). It's a competition that has students going to bed thinking about superconductors, not just the Super Bowl.



Drive-team members of the Prent sponsored "Rock N' Robots Team 3692" in the pits at last year's regional competition in Duluth.

The Prent Team

Prent wholeheartedly embraces FIRST Robotics and the promotion of STEM education by co-sponsoring "Rock N' Robots Team 3692" from Janesville's high schools, who hope to compete at Regional and National events and the opportunity to win \$20 million in scholarships.

Mitch Benson, Prent's Senior Vice President of Manufacturing Services, is one of the Prent Engineering team members who volunteered to help the students assemble the official robot kit and provide technical and career path insight.

"This has been a wonderful education path for potential engineers and future technicians," says Mitch.

"They're learning basic design concepts, PLC ladder logic programming, developing electrical schematic drawings, and more."

The Future of Manufacturing

Robots are a critical part of our manufacturing processes all over the world. "We're continuously adding technology-driven improvements. Providing students with relevant educational opportunities surrounding technology is critical to our future," he points out.

The students appreciate Prent's outreach. As one team member said, "this is giving me invaluable experiences and skills, including the opportunity to learn from our knowledgeable mentors. What's great is that I can use these skills in the real world, such as college and job opportunities."

Sixty teams from Wisconsin, Iowa, Ohio, Minnesota, Illinois and Indiana will meet in Milwaukee March 19-21 for regional competition and the dream of moving onto the National Championships in St. Louis in April.



Watch this short National Geographic video from the 2014 FIRST Robotics Championships:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jG7XavPD8hc>

FACTOID

What competition has students thinking about Super Conductors, not just the Super Bowl?

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PRENT CORPORATION

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SERVICE Awards

25 YEARS

Thomas Dixon	Sr. Estimator	Janesville
Deborah Hilt	Inspector/Packer	Janesville
Evie Kelly	Inspector/Packer	Janesville

20 YEARS

James Krebs	Maintenance Mgr	Janesville
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15 YEARS

Troy Benson	Technician	Janesville
Kristin Iverson	Inspector/Packer	Janesville
Christopher Pastore	Quality Engineer	Janesville
Teresa Sanders	Production Planner/Scheduler	Janesville
Mark Talabac	Corporate Account Mgr	Janesville
Ken Trapp	Controller	Janesville
Fou Kiew Yoon	Senior Estimator	Malaysia

10 YEARS

Kew Lee Boey	Costing Executive	Malaysia
Michael Courtney	CNC Programmer	Janesville
Chang Swee Hong	Sales Administrator	Malaysia
Shahedon Bin Moin	CNC Programmer	Malaysia
Wazulinda Binti Wacho	MA	Malaysia

5 YEARS

Donald Galfano	CNC Set-Up Technician	Janesville
Norhaya Binti Abd Gani	MA	Malaysia
Katrina Holden	Inspector/Packer	Arizona
Jens Per Johansen	QA Supervisor	Denmark
Maofira Binti Malik	MA	Malaysia
Ronald Seeman	Cleaning Person	Janesville
Au Kee Song	Tool Room Manager	Malaysia

TRADE SHOW SCHEDULE •



MD&M WEST 2015

February 10-12, 2015
Anaheim Convention Center, Booth 2033
Anaheim, CA, USA



HEALTH PACK 2015

March 3-5, 2015
Norfolk Waterside Marriott, Booth 15
Norfolk, VA, USA



MEDTEC UK

March 3-4, 2015
ExCel London
London, UK



MEDTEC EUROPE

April 21-23, 2015
Messe Center
Stuttgart, GERMANY



MD&M East 2015

June 9-11, 2015
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center,
Booth 1733
New York, NY, USA