



Prent's Dave Hiller, Rachel Andres, and Adam Case, pictured with US Congressman Bryan Steil (second from left), at the WMC event.

Several Prent Wisconsin leaders joined Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC) members and staff in Washington, DC on February 6th and 7th to advocate for pro-business policies. WMC is the state's chamber of commerce, manufacturers' association, and safety council representing over 3,800 member companies.

Prent Executive VP Rachel Andres, Senior VP of Manufacturing Dave Hiller, and VP of Strategic Financial Services Adam Case represented Prent at the event. More than 40 business leaders and WMC staff met with elected officials and advocated for pro-business policies. "The purpose of the event was to support the interests of Wisconsin businesses and engage national lawmakers on several important topics," Hiller said. "The group also met with the United States Chamber of Commerce and discussed the 2024 election and immigration policy."

"It was an opportunity to hear legislative perspectives and discuss relative topics like managing federal spending, tax policy, and infrastructure," Hiller said. Congressman Bryan Steil also joined the Prent team for dinner and discussed regional and national issues impacting businesses like Prent Corporation.



Pictured left to right are Prent Wisconsin employees and family members Elijah, Samuel, Isaiah, Michelle, and Tim Hoffland. Elijah is a CNC set-up technician, Sam works on the electrical assembly of Prent's thermoformers, Isaiah is a maintenance manager, Michelle (mother) is an inspector/packer, and Tim (father) retired from his former job to be a delivery driver.

KEEPING IT ALL IN THE FAMILY

Prent is proud to introduce the Hoffland family a remarkable example of Prent employees (and family members) who are willing to enhance their skills and further their careers. Prent believes that, with the right work ethic, employees can be supported and trained to learn the skills necessary to be successful. The Hofflands have all attended Blackhawk Technical College (BTC) to further their careers and all currently work at Prent. BTC plays a vital role in providing Prent with exceptional talent, allowing for the internal training that is required for success. "We all take pride in working at Prent," says Elijah. "They recognize my desire to work hard and improve myself—not only for the company's sake, but for my sake."



PRENT PRETAINERS REDUCE COSTS AND INCREASE SUSTAINABILITY

Prent Pretainers are quickly becoming a customer favorite. They not only standardize twist-to-open and slideto-open retainers in medical device packaging, providing maximum product protection and a smooth aseptic transfer to the sterile field, but they also provide cost savings and increased sustainability.

"Prent Pretainers offer definite savings to our customers with the reduction in plastic and parts, fewer SKUs, and lower shipping costs," says Prent Sales Representative Tyler Evans. "This makes it easier for our customers to plan and manufacture their products."

"Pretainers eliminate the need for full retainers which results in less material waste for more sustainability" Evans said.

In one preliminary design, Pretainers reduced the footprint of a customer's incumbent tray decreasing the material usage by more than 75%, according to Prent Director of Product Development Jake Keleny.

Pretainers replace product snap features to enhance the end-user experience. "A one-piece design rather than one with multiple components is very favorable. Feedback from both nursing panels and customers has been great," Evans said.

Whether you are interested in design innovation, or sustainability, or cost savings, a Prent Pretainer is a great option for your next project. For more information, email sales@prent.com.





PRENT ALIGNS ITS GLOBAL TOOL ROOM MANAGEMENT

Prent's VP of Product Development Chris Bladl, Lead CNC Programmer Mike Courtney, and President of North America Joe Pregont II dine with Tool Room Managers Jacky Zhao and Kee Song Au (left). Zhao meets with Prent tool room colleagues at Prent Headquarters (below).

In December 2023, Prent China Tool Room Manager Jacky Zhao and Prent Malaysia Tool Room Manager Kee Song Au visited Prent Headquarters in Wisconsin. They collaborated with colleagues to learn about the latest medical tool fabrication processes and practices—especially related to long medical tool fabrication for the P72 long former in Prent Shanghai, which was installed at the Prent China facility in Shanghai one year ago.

"This is my first trip to Janesville and it was a great opportunity to broaden my horizons and learn how our North American colleagues are working with pride and competence," Zhao said. "I am also looking forward to visiting the new Innovation Center in Wisconsin with the latest, powerful 5-axis milling line setup when construction is complete in the near future."

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the exterior this month and are currently moving to interior operations."



INNOVATION CENTER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction is moving along on Prent's Innovation Center in Wisconsin. To date, the exterior is finishing up with metal work almost complete and block work soon to commence. On the interior, crews are currently installing the second floor mezzanine pre-cast concrete and pouring mill and crane foundations.

"The innovation center is marching forward with unwavering momentum as the pieces continue to fall into place," says Prent Facilities Engineering Manager Luke Forde. "We are finishing

A raised seal flange

LET'S GET TECHNICAL



When developing medical device packaging, one of the many considerations that Prent design teams need to determine is which flange type to use. Flanges are an integral part of a medical device tray design because they help maintain sterilization.

Flat seal and raised seal are the two types of flanges used in medical device trays and each has functional advantages.

With flat seal flange trays, the flange and seal surface are the same surface. Flat flange trays reduce flow lines and the flange width is affected by the flange tolerance. Raised seal flange trays help to increase structure and offer a consistent seal width, but have greater potential for flow lines.

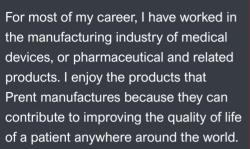
Many medical device manufacturers are partial to trays with raised seal over flat seal flanges as they reduce the opportunity for Tyvek[®] delaminating. According to Prent VP of Product Development Chris Bladl, Prent design teams also prefer using raised seal flanges due to the structure and known seal area advantages. For more details about flanges for your next project, email sales@prent.com.

PRENT CELEBRATES FEMALE LEADERS IN MANUFACTURING

Get to Know Prent's Women in the Workforce in this 2-part Series in Honor of Women in Manufacturing Month

YALEIDY CESAR

I have been at Prent for over 17 years. I started as the Prent Puerto Rico Quality Engineer and am currently the Quality Manager for Latin America.



I am motivated by the opportunity to lead and contribute to my team's success. I see myself as a teacher and enjoy offering guidance and support to my team members. It is very rewarding to help others reach their full potential.

I got most of my inspiration from the women I am closest to. Seeing that my mother achieved so many things by herself, under very difficult circumstances, serves as a reminder to never give up and always do my best.

I am very proud to have been a part of the startup process of Prent Puerto Rico and all the things we have accomplished since.

The best advice I received is to never stop learning or seeking opportunities to learn because knowledge makes a difference. And, to always strive to do your best—even at the smallest tasks.

Manufacturing is indeed a challenging industry, but also very rewarding. Things don't always go as expected, but how you deal with it is what determines your success. My advice is to keep focused on accomplishing your goals and don't get distracted comparing yourself to others. Work on your self-esteem, focus on your strengths, and trust in yourself. And, stay where you are valued.

JENNI

I joined Prent China in 2009 as a Production Administrator and am currently the Factory Production Manager

in Shanghai. I am mainly responsible for the operations of Prent's medical production division.

I enjoy having a vision for what can be accomplished and then setting objectives and achievable goals with my team through effective communication. Success comes when this is achieved.

Prent's values and culture are highly motivating for me, including being fully engaged and willing to learn, being the best at what we do, and employing team work.

Maye Musk's positive attitude, and drive to learn has inspired me. She has said, "The choice of life is always in our own hands. We live by choice, not by chance. Any time we make changes, it is not too late—so, believe in ourselves, make a good plan, and implement it."

I have worked with my team to standardize and simplify the process to achieve the robust production of medical trays, which includes continuous improvement on efficiency enhancement, KPI improvement, labor cost reduction, and production layout optimization. As a result, our team has a proactive mindset to highlight issues and make good suggestions.

The best business advice I received is to eat the elephant bite by bite, which means accomplish a large goal by doing smaller, cumulative tasks.

I would tell other women interested in the industry not to shy away from something just because there are no other women in that role. You can be brave enough and be visible.

AMANDA PELLIZZ

I have been at Prent for six years as the Director and Vice President of Human Resources.



I enjoy my job at Prent and working in the manufacturing industry because every day there are new opportunities and challenges! One of the benefits of being in Human Resources is getting to work with every department throughout the business. It is rewarding to see people progress through their careers at Prent.

Being able to help empower family, friends, and co-workers, and watch them be successful definitely keeps me motivated.

I've really enjoyed building strong relationships with employees and leaders at all of our locations. Having the opportunity to learn about the culture and human resources laws at our international locations has been a great experience.

The best piece of business advice I received is to prioritize and build strong relationships with customers, employees, business partners, and community leaders. These relationships can lead to long-term success.

Words of wisdom I would give to a woman interested in entering the manufacturing industry or business world is to work hard and have fun while doing it. And, to be positive and open to change.

In the next issue of *NewsPrent*, we will run part two of our Series on Women Leaders in the Workforce. Don't miss the continuation of this feature on Prent's female leaders in manufacturing around the globe coming this summer!



PRENT EXECUTIVES EXCHANGE INSIGHTS AND INNOVATION WITH PRENT MALAYSIA





In January, Prent Malaysia welcomed Prent CEO and Board Chairman Joe Pregont and President of North America Joe Pregont II. This concluded their Prent facilities tour from Denmark last fall to Shanghai and Malaysia last winter. The Prent Malaysia visit was characterized by shared progress and camaraderie, as each department had the chance to showcase the remarkable strides made over the last few years. Throughout the visit, informative presentations unfolded as department heads presented their progress updates.

These sessions not only highlighted Prent Malaysia's collective achievements but also underscored the team's commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. Prent's leadership actively participated in these discussions, fostering a constructive exchange of ideas and insight.

"Beyond the factory updates, the visit provided a valuable platform for the team at Prent Malaysia to gain insight into the advances and developments at Prent Headquarters, including the exciting news about the inauguration of the Innovation Center in Wisconsin," General Manager James Lai said. "It offered a glimpse into the cutting-edge initiatives shaping the future of our organization."

"It is evident that the bonds forged during these interactions will serve as a catalyst for even greater collaboration and innovation" Lai said. "The exchange of knowledge and experience between the Wisconsin and Malaysian teams has laid the foundation for a stronger, more interconnected future."



CRAFTSMAN WITH CHARACTER

Prent Headquarters continues to host this program for local high school juniors and seniors to learn from mentors through handson experience. Parker High School students (above top) finished their 16-week session and Craig High School students (above bottom) and charter students are now shadowing mentors in Prent's tool room, and its maintenance, machine build, and engineering departments.



PRENT BAJA HAS A GREAT DEAL TO CELEBRATE

In February, Prent Baja celebrated 365 days without any accidents! And, in March, they removed trash at a local park for a Social Responsibility Action day.

PRENT People

ANNIVERSARIES

25 YEARS

Kiew Yoon Fou Michael Zimmerman

20 YEARS

Shahedon Bin Moin Swee Hong Chang Frank Che

15 YEARS Kee Song Au Ligin Yao

10 YEARS

Chen Chen Cassandra Hodgson Jessica Kieliszewski **Donna Klipstine** Yingqiong Li **Chantal McCann** Joseph Pregont II Lisa Tracy Haiyan Wang Virginia Williams Xiaorong Xiao Yifeng Zhao

5 YEARS

Roszeiana Abd Rashid Jose Almaraz Mujanna Binti Ahmat Melor Binti Awang Siti Asnizah Binti Gilin Jumriani Binti Herman Mastikah Ayu Binti M Razali Malaysia Siti Zulaiha Binti Zailani Uji Suryani Bt Pattah Peter Dausell Erika Fay **Brent Hughes** Maria Ulfa Shawn McGuire Angeline Neo Pei Nee Shelly Pan **David Rojas** Sara Russell Vincent Tee Wei Yau T'voura Tucker Wuthy Yao

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Chai Koh Heng (above) hiking recently in Malaysia and (above right), in his earlier years, when he began working at Prent. In 1996, Heng started at Prent as a tool maker and manual machinist for vacuum forming tools.

"When Prent took over in Malaysia, I started learning how to program and run CNC machines. I was also responsible for overseeing in-house safety committee members" he said.

Heng is currently a Senior CNC Programmer at Prent Malaysia. His job includes preparing CNC programming for tool cutting, performing tool inspections before they are released for piloting, tool room scheduling, maintaining CNC cutter inventory control, optimizing tool fabrication processes, and generating best known methods.

Heng was born and raised in a small village at Chui Chak, Perak, a northern state of peninsular Malaysia, which is a beautiful village full of rice fields and agriculture. He studied in a Chinese secondary school, Sekolah Menengah San Min, until he finished high school. Heng then began making 3D wooden moulds for aluminium casting in a polyfoam manufacturing company called Broadway Singapore.

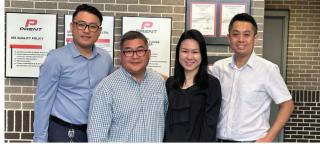
He left Singapore after almost six years and returned to Malaysia. Broadway Moulding Malaysia (a subsidiary of Broadway Singapore) recruited him for their new factory in Johor Bahru, Malaysia. Heng worked there until Prent Corporation entered into a joint venture with the company and he became one of the first employees on the Prent Malaysia team.

L I like my job because Prent keeps progressing every year and I get the chance to continue learning. I also like the group of friendly colleagues and the good working environment that motivates me to be a team player, and achieve company goals, with the help of everyone in the Prent family. I am also excited about and look forward to the new 5-axis milling machine at the Innovation Center coming to Malaysia in the future. \Box

Outside of work, Heng likes to play badminton and swim. He also enjoys going back to the rural areas for mountain climbing and the peacefulness of Mother Nature.

"Many say I am a quiet person, but I just prefer to stay focused working on my tasks at hand," he said.

GLOBAL COLLABORATION CONTINUES



Prent Malaysia sent team members to Prent Headquarters in Wisconsin in September 2023, including (left to right) Sales Account Manager Horrance Tan; Sales Director Kevin Wong, Lead QA Engineer Foo Bao Li, and Quality Assurance Director PY Wong



Prent China visited Prent Headquarters in November 2023. Prent China Sales Director Frank Che, Area Sales Manager Vivian Liu, and Senior QA Supervisor Simon Lu are pictured (left to right) with Prent Wisconsin VP of International Sales and Marketing Mark Talabac (left) and Senior VP of Sales Tom Schaffner (right).



Prent Baja Machine Operator Luis Dias (2nd from left) and LQA Fernando Medrano (far right) visited Prent Headquarters in February; pictured with (left to right) Jeff Hertz. Curt Nyhus, and Tim Weis.



Prent Denmark Sales Account Manager Casper Olesen visited Senior VP of Sales Tom Schaffner and Sales Representative Tyler Evans at Prent Headquarters in February.



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GLOBAL SUMMIT IN MALAYSIA IS A SUCCESS

In January, five team members in the Manufacturing and Quality departments at Prent Headquarters traveled to Malaysia for the opportunity to cross-train and discuss global best practices with their colleagues. "At this summit, a comprehensive review of Malaysia's processes and procedures were shared with the team to compare operational and support activities within the facilities," says Prent VP of Quality Assurance Michael Thornton. "The discussions were passionate, in depth, and collaborative, resulting in both teams gaining valuable insight and understanding."

A FOND FAREWELL TO THESE PRENT RETIREES Lana Levelle, Prent Wisconsin, Inspector/Packer 12/30/13 - 1/4/24 Lana plans to go camping, enjoy crafting, and spend more time with family.



Randy Zenke, Prent Wisconsin, Machine Builder 4/6/15 - 1/5/24 Randy, pictured at left with Prent CEO and Board Chairman Joe Pregont, plans to do more fishing and travel throughout northern Wisconsin. He recently completed hospice training so that he can volunteer for the Disabled American Veterans.

Penni Stevens, Prent Wisconsin, QA Inspector Auditor 11/10/14 - 1/31/24 Penni plans to spend time with family, take road trips and recreate outdoors.

Roland Snyder, Prent Wisconsin, Inspector/Packer 2/16/15 - 2/28/24

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Jerry Boehning, Prent Wisconsin, Maintenance 10/12/00 - 4/1/24 Jerry plans to fish, visit family, travel to Door County, and garden with his wife.

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