



SPECTRUM



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MPS Group Springs into Action When GM Plant Floods

More than five inches of rain fell in Warren, Michigan on August 11, the greatest amount in a single day since 1925. Unfortunately for General Motors' historic Tech Center, the heavy downpour caused a serious problem. Flooding, estimated at seven feet of water in some basement areas, occurred throughout the sprawling facility.

"The west quadrant of the campus was the most heavily impacted," noted Mike Morgan, MPS Group's Lead Resource Manager. "This includes Manufacturing A, B, Engineering, Design and the Aerodynamics Lab. The most damage was done to Design because the basement sanitary lift stations failed, contaminating the water. This disgusting mixture ruined basement labs which included clay models, sculptor tools that went back several generations, one-of-a-kind prototypes and 3D printers. Countless computers and electronics were destroyed."

A long-term service provider at the GM facility, MPS Group provides standard Resource Management (RM) and Industrial and Facilities Services (IFS) to the automaker. The permanent team of eight RM members led by Morgan, plus the site's IFS manager Jeff Loos, expanded exponentially in response to the flood. "Our regular team plus up to 10 temporary techs managed the RM duties," detailed Morgan. "We entered newly pumped basements to remove contaminated chemicals, plus inventoried and packaged items for disposal. On the IFS side, Jeff had over 150 technicians on site, supported by a fleet of frac tanks, vacuum trucks and vacuum tankers."

To cope with the vast amount of debris to be removed from the affected areas and the shortage of roll-off boxes throughout the metropolitan area, the MPS Group team erected an on-site trash transfer station. Set up in the parking lot and cordoned off with hay bales and jersey barriers, the station kept three trucks operating around the clock for three weeks to accept the waste generated by the flood. "We were able to dump and return the roll-off boxes in 20 minutes instead of an hour," explained Morgan. "A technician was on site 24/7 to supervise the offloading and inspect the load for hazardous items like fluorescent lamps, paint cans or cylinders. The on-site pad was in operation until October 1, by which time our team had shipped 3,280 tons of debris."

Additionally, MPS Group's IFS team pumped massive volumes of water from the low spots on campus, supplied frac tanks to hold contaminated water for offsite disposal, pumped and cleaned elevator shafts, and jetted clogged drains. The *Detroit News* reported that "more than 30 million gallons of water" – enough to fill 45 Olympic-size swimming pools – had to be pumped out of basements and tunnels at the Tech Center. "Some of the pumping was literally done just in the nick of time to spare server banks and other water sensitive electronic equipment which control at least part of GM's intranet and email operations," said Morgan. "Jeff was able to have people back in some buildings within a couple days of the flood. His efforts were incredible."

Their client apparently agreed. GM Environmental Group Manager David Randall widely praised the team for their outstanding work: "They showed great initiative during the flood, coming up with great ideas like the trash pad and staging areas for chemicals. We appreciated their help and they should all be commended for their work." He singled out the following team members for their efforts: Mike Morgan, Steve Everett, Chris King, Sam Ramouni, Eric Schupp, Jerry Pace, Kevin Schuknecht, Mohamed Alramamneh and Bill Smedley.




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Larger Than Life Smiles

Mothers always love to see their children's smiling faces and Soave's Corporate Controller Kristin Kless gets to enjoy that view larger than life each time she drives down Big Beaver Road in Troy, Michigan.

Her two children, Lauren and Kyle, are featured on the large printed banner that surrounds the construction site of the new DMC Children's Hospital of Michigan being built in Detroit's northern suburb.



"My kids had attended a Kohl's Cares for Kids safety day this past summer. They got to meet Danny Dekeyser from the Red Wings, play games associated with safety and receive autographed bike helmets," said Kless. "As an event sponsor, DMC had a photographer there. Both of my children ended up having pictures taken and the DMC thought they would be a great addition to the banner. It was one of those 'in the right place at the right time' moments!"

Have an Idea for a Story?

If you have information to share with co-workers across the Soave family of companies, please contact the site reporter at your location. A complete listing of reporters is available on-line at: www.soave.com

Soave Spectrum publishes articles focusing on the professional and personal successes of Soave team members. Photographs to accompany story ideas are appreciated and greatly enhance the information provided. Story ideas include: updates or changes in business activities, accomplishments by employees and their family members, employee appointments and events, or awards received. Thank you for your help in making our newsletter an important employee link across our diverse company.



Expansion

Some cycles are easy to identify: summer follows spring, day follows night. The rhythm of business is similarly predictable. Expansion frequently takes center stage after an economic contraction. The nationwide challenges faced in recent years are fading and new opportunities await those with vision.

Soave Enterprises has taken advantage of the current business climate with several recent acquisitions. This targeted growth allows for the expansion of ideas, dreams and, hopefully, profits. We are again exercising

the entrepreneurial spirit that has grown Soave Enterprises into the formidable company it is today.

Just as our long-standing portfolio of companies is diverse, the new acquisitions are spread across a variety of industries. Years ago, Malcolm Forbes, the long-time publisher of *Forbes Magazine*, defined diversity as "the art of thinking independently together." Our empowered, exceptional team members will be able to let their talents shine in these new arenas.

Please welcome to the Soave family of businesses:

- Our second venture into the oil and gas industry, Sterling Oilfield Services, which supplies chemical additives and process blending to hydraulic fracturing companies.
- An expansion of the Soave Automotive Group with the October 2014 purchases of BMW of Topeka and Volkswagen of Topeka.
- A premium residential development located in Naples, Florida, which plans 600 high-rise condominium units with resort style amenities. Sales at Kalea Bay will begin in January 2015.
- A luxury apartment development in the heart of downtown Rochester, Michigan. The premier one, two and three bedroom apartments expect to welcome their first residents in early 2016.
- Two new scrap metal processing companies in Ypsilanti, Michigan and Massillon, Ohio to expand Ferrous Processing and Trading's geographic reach and volume in key markets in southeast Michigan and northern Ohio.

May you all enjoy happy holidays and we look forward to a prosperous New Year.

Ferrous Processing & Trading:

Instrumental in Plant Overhaul

In an organized chaos colorfully described as "synchronized Transformers dancing," Ferrous Processing & Trading (FPT) assisted Ford Motor Company in a landmark changeover of its Dearborn Truck Plant. Starting in August, Ford had eight weeks to remove all equipment and tooling at the southeast Michigan facility and replace it with new machinery. The body shop conversion was necessary because the Ford F-150 produced at the plant is moving to an all aluminum body beginning with its 2015 model.



FPT was awarded the scrap removal contract by Ford because in the words of Chris Heil, Asset Scrap Manager with the automaker's real estate division, "They're the only one that can handle this size job." From August 24 to August 29, working 24 hours a day, FPT moved 383 loads of tear-out scrap from the Dearborn plant to its Detroit-based main yard. "We moved 5,400 tons of demo scrap in just five days," said Kevin Hopps, Account Executive at Ferrous, explaining the enormity of the operation. "The FPT team had a detailed plan that accounted for the movements of 15 trucks each day."

The feat was so impressive that, through his project team, Ford Motor Company CEO Mark Fields congratulated FPT for doing a tremendous job. The completion of the project on time was critical to the success of the body shop transformation and launch of the new F-150.



With this major project success, FPT looks forward to repeating the process at Ford's Kansas City Assembly Plant in early 2015 for its body shop changeover. "We look forward to applying the same effort in this second transformation," stated Hopps. Ford Land's Heil said, "I'd like to extend a special thanks to those instrumental in this project, including FPT's Kevin Hopps, Brian McMahon, Steve Benacquisto, Mike Benacquisto, as well as Kee Trucking, EHS Trucking, HMT Trucking and The Farrow Group."

Shredding It Up in Cleveland

The "Green Monster" can shred a car in 30 seconds. The recently renovated, multi-million dollar shredder proved its capabilities when the first automobile was processed on August 1, 2014 at FPT's Cleveland facility. About the size of a city block, the one-of-a-kind, remodeled shredder can be compared to a giant meat grinder for steel, capable of mincing any object constructed of 3/8" or less steel, including vehicles, washers, dryers and some siding.

Designed by the FPT engineering team, components were produced in Detroit, then assembled in Cleveland. The machine required eight weeks to make operational. With a 4,000-horsepower electric motor, the shredder has a bell-shaped hammer that pounds on a shaft revolving 500 times a minute to force steel through grater-like openings. A conveyor belt is equipped with magnets to separate and sort the flow of shredded product, resulting in the best recycled steel product available in the country.

"Steel mills throughout the Midwest are eager to purchase this top quality, exceptionally clean steel," notes Drew Luntz, President of FPT Ohio. "Enhancements in our shredder allow us to produce the finest material for melting and allows the steel to be completely recycled. This improved technology demonstrates our long-term commitment to quality and supports FPT's goal of maintaining our position as industry leader," continued Luntz. "We are constantly looking forward to the future of metals recycling."



WAY TO GO!

Special achievements deserve special recognition. Hats off to the following!

- Facebook fans voted race car driver **Stephen Collins** "Star of the Week" at Fairgrounds Speedway Nashville on August 21. When he's not racing his #90 Auto City Honda Civic, the 32-year-old, married father of three is a third shift crane and forklift operator at FPT Tennessee.

An asset to the crew at Nissan North America Smyrna, Collins brings an impressive knowledge of metals types to his day-to-day job. In the six years he's been racing, he has also won "Best Appearing Car" 2010-2013, "Most Popular Driver" 2012-2013, and "Race Team of the Year" (Collins Motorsports) 2012-2013.



Visit his fan page: www.facebook.com/pages/Collins-Motorsports/23542932327381, to receive updates on his racing season.

- This fall, instead of starting his junior year at Detroit's Renaissance High School, **Justin Woods**, grandson of Soave Enterprises' receptionist **Irene Gray**, is headed to Washington D.C. to begin his internship. He has been appointed as one of 30 Senate pages in the prestigious U.S. Congressional Page Program, founded in 1829.



Sponsored by Senator Carl Levin, Justin's duties will consist of delivering correspondence and legislative material within the Congressional complex, preparing the chamber for Senate sessions, and carrying bills and amendments to the desk. Pages attend classes in the early morning at the United States Senate Page School.

A competitive track star, he maintains a 3.5 GPA. He placed 4th in the nation for the steeplechase run with the Detroit Cheetah Track Team and 4th in the city for the 800 meter dash. After graduation, he hopes to study film production and law at Central Michigan University.

- MPS Group Total Waste Manager **Jen Fugaban** was recognized with a Leadership and Recognition Award from Ford Motor's Chicago Assembly Plant. The award, along with a gift card to Macy's, was presented to her by Plant Manager Mike Polk and Anthony Hoskins after undergoing the Region V RCRA Waste Audit and having a perfect record - "No Violations Found."

Brambleton Celebrates 13 Years

Cases of triskaidekaphobia—fear of the number "13"—were not apparent at Brambleton Day. In honor of the community's 13th year, a party was held September 24th at the Welcome Center. Residents participated in a birthday cake decorating contest and winners received ribbons and gift cards to Brambleton Town Center.



The event was part of an ongoing, busy neighborhood schedule that helps define the tight-knit community in northern Virginia even as it continues growing. From May through November, each Sunday brings a Farmers Market. Gold ribbons decorate the area in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Neighbors organize regular community yard sales and the annual dog calendar features 13 of the area's cutest pups. And the biggest event of the year, Brambleton's 10th annual Fall Fest, set for the second Saturday in October, gathered hundreds of families with electronic rides, moon bounces, food vendors, a chili-cook off, cornhole challenge and live music.

"Brambleton's families embrace the use of social media to stay in touch with their neighbors and helps coordinate these events," explains Kim Adams, Brambleton's Director of Marketing. "We effectively use our website, Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, a Brambleton blog and a community TV channel to keep residents up-to-date on neighborhood happenings and items of local interest. For 13 years, we've been building a thriving, active community."

Soave Automotive Group Building Relationships with the Community

By following a winning formula of providing world class products plus outstanding service and community involvement, Soave Automotive Group continues to thrive in the Kansas City marketplace. Summertime brought a host of thoughtfully selected charitable events that introduced the Aristocrat Motors and Mercedes-Benz dealerships to many new potential customers – and supported a wide range of outstanding local causes.



Cars shared the spotlight with creative culinary dishes and live music at the Food Truck Showdown, a fundraising event benefitting the regional food bank, Harvesters. Six food trucks and 900 people came together for a four-hour-long taste testing. Attendees donated to the charity which serves a 26-county area of northwestern Missouri and northeastern Kansas to sample food served from the trucks.

Soon afterward, Aristocrat Motors sponsored "Drive for a Cause," a benefit for the Rose Brooks Center, a women's shelter that seeks to break the cycle of domestic violence in the Greater Kansas City Area. More than 175 people drove a selection of Mercedes-Benz, Jaguars, Land Rovers and Porsches over a set five-mile course. The dealership donated a dollar for each mile driven and participants were asked to match that donation.

"For the duration of the event, the drivers become

our product ambassadors," detailed Robert Hellweg, Marketing Director for Soave Automotive Group. "Many of them drove their 'dream cars' which for the first time, then went home to spread the word among friends and neighbors about the dealership and the cars. It was a win-win event for everyone."

Continuing its sponsorship of *Sunflower to Roses*, a cancer survivor and patient support organization in the Kansas City area, Team Soave led the organization's 12th annual bike tour on August 3rd. The automotive group's team occupied the front position at the tour's starting point, as well as first place in fundraising.

This year the big event was preceded by a training ride at Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City, where over 125 riders came out to do 7, 15 or 30 mile rides to prep for the actual *Sunflower to Roses* tour. "After completing the practice event, participants enjoyed lunch, our great selection of Mercedes-Benz products and took a ride on an electric bike," explained Hellweg. "The Mercedes-Benz test drives were the clear winner!"



Great Growth!

As a customer-focused company using state-of-the-art technology and modern growing methods, Great Northern Hydroponics prides itself on always meeting client needs. Recently, the Ontario-based greenhouse operation was singled out by Mastronardi Produce, which sells produce under the Sunset® name, because it far exceeded their expectations. Great Northern received the Mastronardi Produce's prestigious 2014 Grower of the Year award.



"We are honored to receive the Mastronardi family's highest honor from among its many growers," said Great Northern President and General Manager Guido van het Hof. The 60 year-old, four generation company markets world-class class tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers across North America. "The Sunset network of growers is the highest quality on the continent and receiving this award at their annual recognition event is a wonderful and welcome acknowledgment of Great Northern's ongoing efforts to remain at the top of our field."



Great Northern's tomatoes are produced under optimum growing conditions, in a maximum biologically controlled environment that is pesticide and herbicide free. Packaging and shipping are done on-site to guarantee freshness using sophisticated automation together with meticulous attention to quality and detail. The company's quality, sanitation, security, maintenance, product traceability, hygiene and integrated pest management protocols are second to none.

While all of the client's greenhouses are required to be certified to a Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) recognized standard, Great Northern surpasses this condition and is Safe Quality Food (SQF) - Level 3 certified. The Safe Quality Food Standard is GFSI recognized and based on proven principals by the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods, HACCP methodology, and Codex Alimentarius (ISO). Level 3 also encompasses a Quality Management System portion as well. "Our Level 3 certification ensures and demonstrates our commitment to delivering the safest, highest quality product to our customers," noted Quality Systems Manager Kimberley Krosiak.

"All Shook Up" at FPT



While Elvis Presley's two most famous personal airplanes, the *Lisa Marie* and the *Hound Dog II*, have remained part of the Graceland exhibit since the late 1970s, The King purchased other aircraft as well. Ferrous Processing will soon be dismantling and recycling one of those planes owned by "royalty" after years of distinguished service to the 1960s and 70s rock n' roll community. The plane, formerly owned by E.P. Enterprises, flew Elvis' band members and guests around the country to their performances.

Purchased by Royal Air Charter of Waterford, Michigan, in 2000, the plane was converted into a cargo plane and used until 2013 to haul freight. "Scott with Royal Air and I met years ago when he called me about scrapping older planes," explains Danny Wild, Senior Account Executive of FPT. "When we spoke back then, he had tried contacting several scrap recycling companies who all told him they couldn't complete the job. A smile came across my face, and I said, 'Yes, we can.'" A long-standing partnership was born...thank you very much!

Feeding the Community, Nurturing a Relationship

In just two days, the much-needed urban garden tucked into the hard scrabble Detroit enclave of Highland Park doubled its size. This impressive growth spurt started with a telephone call between Saber Haidous, General Motors' Director of Global Raw Material, and Rob Bakotich, Ferrous Processing & Trading's VP Sales & Marketing.

"GM, through their new 'Supplying Communities Together' program, is coordinating outings with suppliers in a relationship building atmosphere and working to help the community at the same time," explained Bakotich. Under GM's strict conflicts-of-interest policy, workers are barred from accepting meals and social outings from suppliers to avoid the appearance of impropriety. But this policy has made it harder to establish strong working relationships.

"This is the first time in 30 years of working in the automotive industry that I've seen a corporate effort of this sort. It was not a question of whether or not Ferrous would participate; it was how quickly could we get the day on the calendar." Bakotich, along with FPT's team of Jan Hemme, Tony Coraci, Caleb Mellanby and John Palmer, worked alongside their counterparts at GM and the nonprofit Buckets of Rain.

The Detroit-based organization works to feed and revitalize the struggling communities of Michigan.

Through the construction of gardens on abandoned city lots, Buckets of Rain diminishes urban blight, rekindles hope in struggling neighborhoods, and feeds the community through partners like the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries.

"Our day was spent clearing a parking lot of brush and garbage, then filling and painting garden boxes. The 600 boxes were donated containers from GM's Lake Orion facility which FPT hauled down to the site," noted Bakotich. "We're honored that FPT was one of the first groups called to partner with GM and have the opportunity to help feed a neighborhood in inner city Detroit."

Prior to the late September expansion, the garden yielded 25,000 pounds of fresh produce annually, which supplied 70% of the Detroit Rescue Mission's produce. Additionally, every Wednesday the harvest is shared with the surrounding area -- a basket of fresh fruits and vegetables is made available to whoever wants it.

"Our contacts at GM, including Saber, Global Commodity Manager Conrad Gravowski and Asset Recovery and Scrap Sales Agent Tammie Lowe-Eggleston, have inquired whether we have ideas for future charitable projects to come together on," continued Bakotich. "It was such a good experience that we look forward to investing our time in the community side-by-side with GM again."

