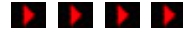


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Capsule News

Marshall Miller & Associates, Bluefield, VA, is expanding its petroleum engineering work with a new division and new initiative leader. In addition, MM&A recently launched operations in Tennessee with the opening of a new office that will also assist the Oil & Gas Division. The new division is geared to help clients coordinate oil and gas economic evaluations over a broad spectrum of "oil field" assets. Bill Vail, located in MM&A's Richmond office, recently joined the company as director of Engineering-Oil & Gas Division, and will be responsible for expansion efforts into oil and gas.

Peabody Energy, St. Louis, MO, has received pre-approval for the air quality permit from the Commonwealth of Kentucky regarding a proposed coal-based electricity generation project in Western Kentucky, the Thoroughbred Energy Campus located near Central City in Muhlenberg County. The project would consist of a 6 million ton-per-year underground coal mine that would fuel a 1,500 megawatt generating plant sited on approximately 4,500 acres of property.

Iowa Mold Tooling Co., Garner, IA, has purchased the assets of Stedt Hydraulic Crane Corporation (Stetco) of Westborough, MA. Stetco is a 50-year-old firm that has developed a unique line of catch basin cleaning products marketed under the "Stetco" registered trade name.

Cattron-Thiemeg Inc., Sharpsville, PA., announces that CSX Transportation Inc. (CSXT) has placed an order for 100 locomotive remote control systems. CSX Transportation provides rail transportation and distribution services over a 23,000 route-mile network in 23 states, the District of Columbia and two Canadian provinces. Cattron-Thiemeg has implemented Remote Control Technology on nearly 3,000 national railroad locomotives and over 2,000 industrial locomotives throughout the world.

Longwall Associates, Inc., Chilhowie, VA., an international supplier of O.E. and rebuild AFC/BSL systems, announces an alliance with German chain manufacturer, Kettenwerk Becker Pr_nte GmbH. In an exclusive representation agreement for the U.S., Canada and Mexico, Longwall Associates will be the sole contract for the sale of Becker Pr_nte AFC/BSL chain, flight bars and chain connectors. Call Shelley Campbell at 276/646-2004.

Rail America, Inc., Boca Raton, FL, announces that its Indiana Southern Railroad, Inc. has commenced shipments under a new transportation agreement with Black Beauty Coal Company resulting in over 1 million tons of coal being moved in the first year, or approximately 11,000 carloads.

LECO Corp., St. Joseph, MI, has teamed with eMarket Capital, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA, to provide a web-based competitive financial solution for customers purchasing LECO's analytical instrumentation and metallographic equipment. On-line at <http://leco.emarketcapital.com>

Mincom, Dallas, TX, and Quadrem have signed a joint declaration to assist mining companies expand their e-business practices and access the Quadrem eMarketplace. The joint declaration includes developing an Interpretability Agreement that will give all Mincom Axis users in the mining industry the ability to automatically access Quadrem quickly and easily.

Motion Industries, Inc., Birmingham, AL, has been ranked by Selling Power Magazine as the second best service company to sell for. Motion Industries was ranked second in the top 20 service companies to sell for, receiving a total of 81 points from a possible 90.

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) will spotlight the historical accomplishments, inventions and innovators of the construction equipment industry in its booth at CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2002 on March 19-23 in Las Vegas, NV. AEM's walk-through display will be arranged by decades, forming a timeline that visitors can follow.

ASTM, W. Conshohocken, PA, has announced a change in its name to ASTM International, which reinforces the openness of the ASTM standards development process to worldwide input as well as reflecting the global application and use of ASTM standards.

American Electric Power, Columbus, OH, has acquired 4,000 megawatts of coal-fired generation in the United Kingdom from Edison Mission Energy, a subsidiary of Edison International. The acquisition is valued at \$960 million and will be immediately accretive to AEP's earnings by approximately \$0.06 per share in 2002.

AEP Energy Services Ltd., London-based European wholesale energy marketing and trading subsidiary of American Electric Power, Columbus, OH, has acquired existing contracts and hired key staff from the Enron international coal team. The transaction includes existing marketing offices and staff in the UK, Germany, Australia and China, and existing contracts in the UK, Germany, Australia, Colombia, South Africa, Indonesia, Poland, Russia and Venezuela.

Taunton Engineering Co. (TECO), Hanson, MA, has entered into a contractual agreement with Engineered Systems & Products, Inc. of Virginia. ESP is a manufacturers' representation firm concentrating in process equipment to the chemical process industry and water/wastewater markets. ESP will represent TECO and its line of fiber feeders, bag opening and disposal systems, and custom line of material handling systems and solutions.

Ferrellgas Partners, L.P., Liberty, MO, has acquired Blue Flame Bottle Gas Service, Inc., which has customer service locations in Tucson, Sierra Vista, and

Casa Grande, AZ. The acquisition brings Ferrellgas approximately 8,600 customers and adds more than 3.5 million gallons to the company's annual retail sales volume.

Bridon American Corp., Wilkes-Barre, PA, has entered into an agreement with Manitowoc Cranes Inc. to be the rope vendor for all Manitowoc cranes manufactured at the Manitowoc, WI factory.

Red Valve Company, Pittsburgh, PA, has acquired RKL Controls from Moyno, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Robbins & Myers of Dayton, OH, expanding the company's customer base in the industrial sector.

Nordic Energy, L.L.C. and Nordic Biofuels, L.L.C. announce plans to build an ethanol production plant and a 850-Mw merchant energy power facility in Ashtabula Township, Ohio. The ethanol production plant will produce more than 80 million gallons of commercial grade ethanol per year, and is projected to employ up to 75 people. Commercial operation should begin in late 2003. The power facility will begin permitting process in early 2002 and expects the process to take 18 months. It is expected to employ 150 people.

The Pittsburgh #8 seam is expected to yield 92 million tons in 2002, and if demand is present, could reach 141 million tons by 2011, according to Hill & Associates. Production increase in 2002 will require that CONSOL Energy's Mine 84 and Robert Murray's Maple Creek mine "get back on their feet," that the Loveridge Mine re-opens late in 2002 and that expansions at CONSOL's McElroy and Robinson Run mines and Murray's Century mines are successful, Hill & Associates noted.

Peabody Energy's Black Beauty unit has been awarded the Director's Award for Excellence in Surface Mining Reclamation Awards from the U.S. Dept. of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining. Black Beauty is the largest coal producer in the Midwest. The majority of the acreage mined and reclaimed at these mines is prime farmland, the highest land use standard encountered in mining reclamation.

JH Service Company, Inc., Coeburn, VA and J&R Repair, Inc., Danville, WV, have formed a joint venture to better service customers needs in southern West Virginia, Virginia, and Kentucky coal fields, providing cable repair service, new and used cable sales and related electrical products and services. The venture will provide a one stop shop offering 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. JH & R is reinforced with 25 technicians and multiple assets.

Domestic coal consumption will grow at a rate of 0.4% per year from 2000-2015 and the demand at power plants will increase to more than 1 billion tons by 2015, according to Coal Industry Fundamentals. Power plant consumption in 2000 was 928 million tons. By 2010, coal-based plants will have to run at approximately 82% of capacity to meet the expected demand for electricity. The report also foresees continued consolidation in the coal industry. In 1983 the 10 largest coal producers accounted for about 34% of total U.S. coal production. by 2000, the 10 largest coal companies accounted for approximately 64% of domestic coal production, the report says.

Holz Rubber Co., Inc., Lodi, CA has entered into a Strategic Alliance with ContiTech North America Inc., Mountvale, NJ, a division of Continental AG, Hannover, Germany, with 38 manufacturing facilities around the world. Holz Rubber has been named the corporate partner for the full line of ContiTech's service materials in the U.S., and will be stocking ContiTech products beginning in the first quarter of 2002.

Temcor, Gardena, CA, has been contracted to supply an 11th storage dome at the largest covered bulk storage project in existence at the Formosa Plastics Group No. 6 naphtha cracking complex in Mai Liao, Taiwan. Of the original 10 massive domes, measuring 396 feet, nine are used for coal storage and one for salt.

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) has launched its new website for the construction and agriculture equipment industry at www.AEM.org

EnerSys Inc., Reading, PA, has acquired the Energy Storage products group of Invensys plc, Chippenham, England, resulting in the world's largest industrial battery company.

Reeddrill Corp., Sherman, TX, has delivered a MK35HE-PS Mine King jumbo electro-hydraulic drill to the Manitoba Division of Inco, Inc. The two-boom jumbo features a Doughty BM4F1012C liquid-cooled turbocharged diesel engine and a Clark-Hurth 18000 series power-shift transmission.

Fairmont Supply Co. has established a new customer service center at Farmington, New Mexico, strategically located to serve the coal mining industry, both underground and surface, as well as coal-fired power generation utilities, oil and gas exploration and refining operations in the New Mexico, Utah, Arizona and Colorado area.