



NoName Newsletter

A periodic newsletter for employees of Viega LLC

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Summer 2007

Viega's U.S. presence grows with start of new facility

MCPHERSON, KS — Viega established a strong presence in Kansas in 2006 with the decision to move its North American headquarters to Wichita. That presence will become more obvious in the coming months as construction progresses on Viega LLC's new manufacturing/logistics facility in McPherson.

Crews currently are preparing the new 100-acre factory site northeast of McPherson for construction of the



An architect's rendering shows the massive exterior of the new Viega LLC McPherson, KS, facility. At left are the logistics area and loading/unloading docks. The extrusion and injection molding areas are on the right. The view is from the southwest.

439,000 sq. ft. facility, which is scheduled for completion in late 2008. Record rainfall has slowed site preparation.

The new facility will provide nearly three times the amount of manufacturing, warehouse and office space Viega currently owns in McPherson.

The northeast McPherson site, which is bordered on the east by Interstate 135, has adequate space for future

manufacturing and logistics facilities, according to Dan Schmierer, Viega LLC's CEO. Viega's new factory and warehouse will cover more than 10 acres upon completion. The start of construction follows nearly one year of planning, Schmierer said. Viega LLC began the master planning process in March 2006 at the direction of Walter Viegner and Heinz-Bernd Viegner, Viega's owners.

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Viega Establishes Major Distribution Centers in Key U.S. Areas

Two years ago, Viega's presence in North America was measured solely by the presence of people and products in key market areas. Today, Viega LLC has a major, growing physical presence throughout the U.S. Within a year, the company will house its logistics, manufacturing, administration and training functions in nearly 900,000 square feet of strategically placed facilities throughout North America. Think of placing a 21-acre field under a roof and you'll have a reasonably good idea of the immense area Viega now occupies. Viega LLC's three distribution centers in Merrimack, Reno and McPherson will soon have the capability to service all



Reno Distribution Center Office Entrance



Reno Distribution Center Interior

Viega product demands in North America, according to Don Hafer, vice president of operations. Hafer said the 275,000 sq. ft. Merrimack facility will help the company reach its goal of shipping orders complete within a 24-hour period.

"We're fully automated now in Merrimack and our new system dramatically helps speed the order filling process," Hafer said. Distribution center employees

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Looking for a little **EXTRA CASH** for vacation?

Name the new Viega Employee newsletter and you will win a \$50 American Express Gift Card. Submit names to Margie Kelly at margie.kelly@viega.com with "Newsletter Name" in the subject line.

Deadline for entries is August 20th, 2007. The winner will be announced next issue. Good Luck to All.



Viega Provides World-Class Training In World-Class Facility



Viega LLC's 16,000 sq-ft. educational center in Nashua, NH, is just one example of the company's commitment to North America. Nearly 700 contractors have been trained during the first five months of 2007.

NASHUA, NH — One of the key factors in determining a company's commitment to its products is to simply assess its investment in training. Viega LLC convinced the piping industry of its commitment last year when it unveiled a national state-of-the-art educational facility in Nashua.

Viega's new 16,000 sq. ft. center, which was officially dedicated last summer, has no equal among North American piping and fittings manufacturers, according to Mark Parent, Viega's director of training. "We have not only the best educational facility but also a superb curriculum," said Parent. The educational center houses two classrooms, a theatre-style computer lab and a hands-on familiarization area, in addition to offices for the training staff. "What this facility shows is a phenomenal commitment from Viega to the industry," said Parent. "There is nothing like this in our industry today. We have the facility, the tools and the training expertise."

"This is the most advanced training facility in our industry and it shows a phenomenal commitment from Viega."

— Mark Parent, Viega LLC Director of Training

Parent said the Viega training philosophy focuses on "providing a fun and interactive environment that leaves course attendees with substantive training." Viega's training center hosted more than 650 contractors during the first five months of 2007.

"We've had people from as far away as California attend

the sessions. And, the feedback we've received tells us we're on the right track with our course offerings," said Parent. Most of the training sessions focus on radiant and hydronic systems. Other course offerings provide contractors with Viega ProPress and PEX product familiarization. "One of the key values we provide to contractors is that we offer courses which qualify for continuing education credits (CEUs)," said Parent. "That's very important to industry professionals. That value-added concept has great value to the industry," he added.



At left, Viega training class participants use the interactive computer lab in the company's Nashua facility.



At right, contractors participate in a hands-on familiarization session with ProPress and Viega PEX products.

Distribution...

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utilize scanners to process orders. A supplemental weight check system will further enhance the accuracy of the order filling process, Hafer explained. Hafer said the Merrimack distribution center will stock and ship all products, including the PEX products manufactured in McPherson this summer.

“At that time, we’ll become a full-service facility,” he added. The 135,000 sq. ft. Reno distribution center is scheduled to become a full-service facility by September, Hafer said.

The McPherson distribution center is responsible for shipping all ViegaPEX products manufactured in the Kansas facility.

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Merrimack Distribution Center Interior

Viega’s American Facilities



McPherson...

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Hafer said ViegaPEX, the MANABLOC, brass and polymer fittings eventually will be stocked at all logistics centers. Key logistics personnel are: Wil Smith, western distribution manager; Nic Winsky, central distribution manager; and Gary Calkins, eastern distribution manager.



McPherson Packaging Area for Fittings, Crimp Rings



Merrimack Shipping Docks



Merrimack Staging Area



McPherson PEX Straight Length Storage Area



McPherson Distribution Center Staging Area

U.S. Presence...

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The new facility, which will be built on the north half of the site, will house extrusion and injection molding operations in the manufacturing area. The manufacturing section of the facility also will house steam bays, an employee break area, maintenance facilities, the machine shop, a raw material receiving area, quality assurance, research and development, production offices and heating/cooling equipment.

The logistics portion of the new facility will include a high-bay automated storage area for pipe coils, storage and packaging areas for fittings/accessories, warehouse offices, shipping/receiving docks and an area designated for storage of literature and trade show booths.

Administration offices will feature a reception/showroom area where Viega's vast array of products will be displayed. The office area also will include a full kitchen and conference room. One of the unique features of the office structure will be the utilization of movable walls and optimization of natural lighting.

The new facility will house nearly 400 Viega employees upon completion, according to Schmierer. A massive employee parking lot will be constructed on the south side of the facility. All employees will enter the facility on the south side in a secure area adjacent to the administration offices.



Acton Plant's Products Widely Used In Radiant Applications

ACTON, MA — Viega LLC's plant in Acton produces a product which is widely-used and highly acclaimed in the radiant heating industry.

The Climate Panel, an integral component in Viega's ProRadiant system, is a patented, concrete-free underlayment panel backed with aluminum.

The Climate Panel, available in 48" units, and the pre-assembled ACP Climate Panels, are manufactured to

exacting tolerances in the Acton facility. The 20,000 sq. ft. Acton plant, which today employs 20 technicians, utilizes state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment to assemble Climate Panel products, according to Robert Boots, Viega LLC's vice president of manufacturing.

"Employees convert raw sheets of plywood and aluminum backing into finished panels through a multi-stage process," Boots said. Raw plywood sheets are initially machined to produce grooves which hold Pextron tubing in

place. After machining, the aluminum is applied as a backing, which is a key component in helping reduce heat loss through the panels.

The Acton plant, which has been producing the Climate Panel products for more than six years, is located in one of the nation's radiant "hot spots," according to Boots. Boots said nearly 65% of the products produced in Acton are shipped to radiant distributors in the Northeast. John Lindfors is production supervisor at the Acton facility.

New Facility Planned for McPherson

North American executives heavily involved in the construction planning process include: Robert Gottermeier, vice president of engineering, who serves as project director; Robert Boots, vice president of manufacturing; Bill Seiler, chief of staff and general counsel; and Don Hafer, vice president of operations.

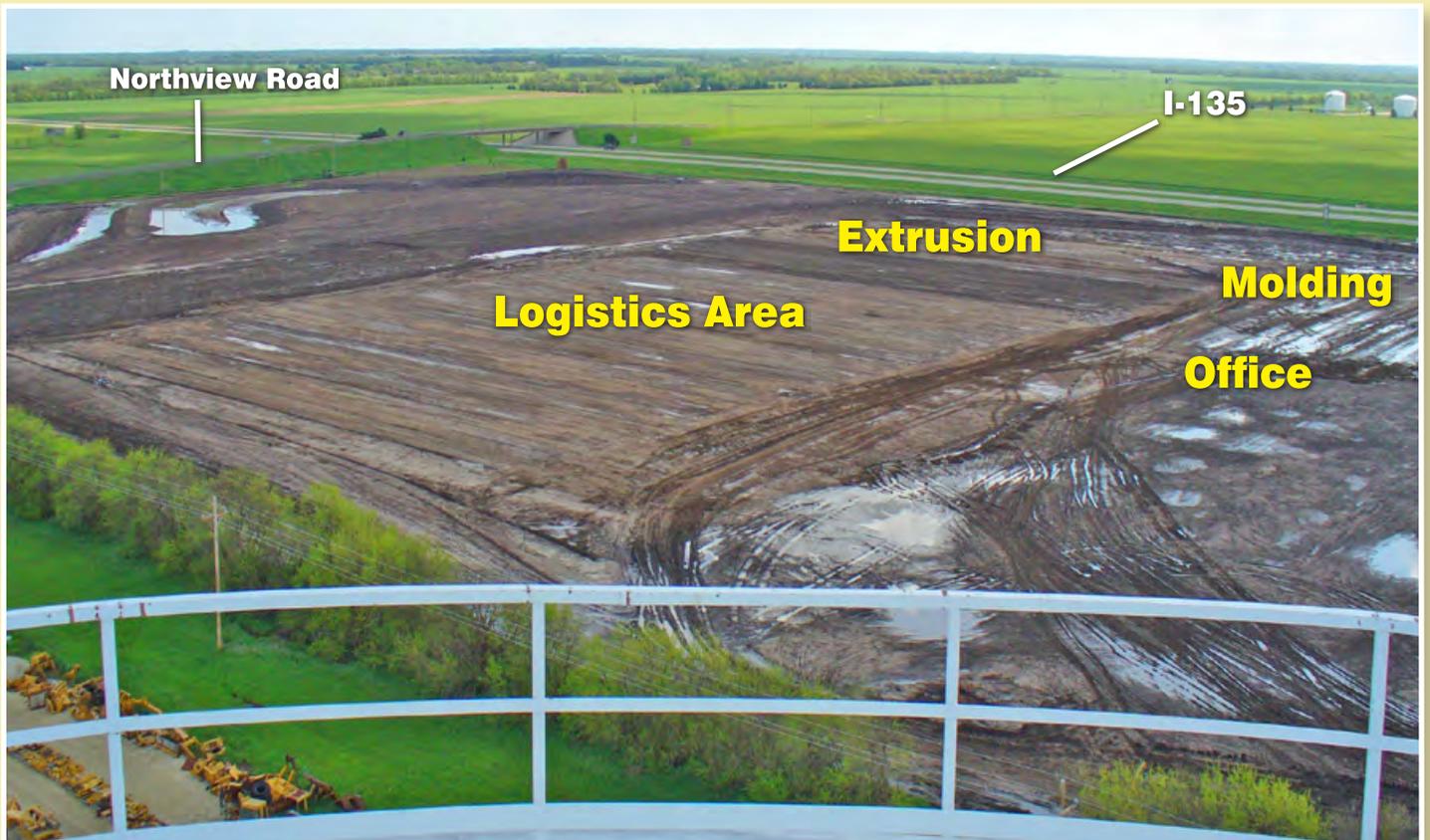
Steve Schmidt, PE, serves as project manager and Dan Markle, a consultant with T&O Consulting of Munich, Germany, is manager/project control.



Tons of quicklime have been introduced to the soil in preparation for concrete work at Viega's plant site northeast of McPherson. This is a view from the construction offices looking north.



Construction crews have moved more than 202,000 cubic yards of dirt as they prepare the McPherson site for construction of Viega's 439,000 sq. ft. manufacturing and logistics facility. This is a view from the road north of the building site.



Construction crews will begin work soon on the concrete footings for Viega's new manufacturing and logistics center. This photo was taken from atop the McPherson water tower by Steve Schmidt, project manager.

Extrusion, Molding Areas to Expand in New Plant

McPHERSON, KS — Viega LLC’s new facility in McPherson will dramatically increase the amount of space allocated for extrusion and injection molding, according to Robert Boots, vice president of manufacturing. “We’ll have at least three times the amount of space for molding and extrusion when the new plant is completed,” said Boots.

The extrusion and molding facilities now are located in two separate buildings. With the completion of the new plant, both will be located under the same roof, separated by shared offices, a break area, QA labs and the research and development lab/offices.

“The additional space will allow us to meet the growing demand for PEX tubing and molded products such as the MANABLOC and polymer fittings,” said Boots. The new plant has been designed to allow for expansion to the north and south when demand dictates the need for more production space, Boots said.

Among the many key McPherson manufacturing personnel are Kent Schmidt, general manager of molding, and Wesley Turner, director of extrusion.



The primary space allocated for injection molding will increase dramatically with the completion of the new McPherson plant. The new molding area will be located in the southeast section of the plant, with adequate room for expansion to meet the growing demand for molded products.



Viega LLC’s PEX extrusion capacity will expand dramatically with the construction of the new manufacturing and logistics facility. This photo shows the primary extrusion operation in the current McPherson manufacturing plant.



Epic Center

Epic Center Serves As Temporary Home For Viega HQ

WICHITA, KS — Kansas’ tallest office building, The Epic Center, is serving as Viega LLC’s temporary North American headquarters. Viega last year purchased more than five acres in east Wichita in the Waterfront area, with plans to construct a new North American headquarters building there within the next three years, according to Dan Schmierer, CEO.

“Viega currently leases the 9th floor of the building and plans to obtain additional space in the building in the near future,” Schmierer said. More than 60 Viega employees are housed in the Epic Center. Departments housed in the office building include executive, finance, engineering/

technical marketing, operations, human resources, marketing, IT, sales and customer services.



Viega LLC employees and visitors to the Epic Center enter through the 9th floor lobby.