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In St. Charles

Trinity Products Opens New Spiral Weld Pipe Mill



Operation of the forming head of Trinity's new spiral weld facility is controlled by an operator from this computer console

Some 14 years ago, Robert Griggs, president of St. Charles based Trinity Products, had a dream. Last month, that dream came true when the company's new spiral weld steel pipe mill moved into operation and its products began rolling out of the new facility to customers across the Midwest and beyond.

Griggs started Trinity Products in 1979 as a distributor of steel pipe for the construction, piling, road boring, utility and caisson markets and expanded into steel pipe fabrication in 1986. The company pro-

duced the new foul poles for Busch Stadium last year as well as pipe for the "Big Dig" in Boston and the Freedom Tower in New York.

The company's newest endeavor, the spiral weld manufacturing mill, forms hot rolled carbon steel coils into pipe and the process is the most economical method of pipe production, Griggs said.

The new mill, which incorporates state-of-the-art equipment from PRD Manufacturing, is one of only 2 of its kind in North America and is capable of producing pipe from

16" to 120" in diameter and .188" to 1" in thickness.

The high tech plant has a 200-ton forming head that converts the coiled steel into pipe, computer controls, video cameras and ultrasonic scanning equipment as well as a 100 foot, 30 ton crane in the 65,000 square foot building.

The facility has its own rail spur to bring in raw material and move finished pipe out as well as a drive through section to accommodate oversize tractor trailers.

Some of first pipe produced in the company's spiral weld facility is being used for piers for a new ocean dock in New Jersey.

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From left, Representative Todd Akin, Trinity Products President Robert Griggs, Plant Manager Ken Colletta and Plant Engineer Roger Siefert during Representative Akin's visit to Trinity's new plant.

Trinity Products

Trinity acted as its own general contractor on the project and its employees did much of the work on the plant, including fabricating all of the building's structural steel, and the 40 ton crane hook for handling steel coils, Griggs said.

Missouri Enterprise helped Trinity Products with layout and design of the new facility.

The new mill will double the company's revenue this year and add about 20 people to the company's workforce, Griggs estimated.

Commenting on the way the Trinity Team accomplished its goal, Griggs said, "I have had the dream of the pipe mill for 14 years, because I knew it would make our company a force in the steel pipe industry. It's a great feeling to have accomplished it, but this is just the beginning of our

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journey to being the best Steel Pipe Company in America. We plan to upgrade our ability over the next year to manufacture American Petroleum Institute (API) pipe, which is the highest quality in the world. It transmits gas, oil and natural gas. This would make us the only API Pipe Mill in the Central United States and allow us to have a tremendous freight advantage over our only other competitor at this time. None of the things could have been accomplished without the work of our Trinity Team, a group of folks that have learned to dream as much as I have. So we will not stop dreaming until we have accomplished these goals and are ready to dream the next dream, because that's the way we live. If you're going to dream, dream BIG."

Kendall Cobb, Missouri Enterprise Project Manager

Kendall Cobb has been a Missouri Enterprise project manager for ten years and also serves as the Kansas City area Service



Delivery Team Leader. He has more than twenty years experience in industrial marketing, sales management, business and strategic planning, production and inventory control, information technology systems and factory automation.

He has developed business and marketing plans for manufacturing and non-manufacturing firms and assisted in software selection and implementation. Kendall also assists manufacturers in meeting the standards necessary to export to the European Union.

Kendall has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management, with a secondary emphasis in Marketing, from Central Missouri State University.

General Assembly Recognizes Gerding Enterprises



State Representative Belinda Harris (center), last month, presented a General Assembly Resolution to Gerding Enterprises President Chuck Gerding (second from left) recognizing the company's quality management system efforts. Looking on were Gerding Enterprises' employees Tracy Tolbert (far left), Troy Oetjen (second from right) and Missouri Enterprise Area Business Manager Rob Osborn (far right).

Ozark Premium Meats Begins Operations

Ozark Premium Meats, a Salem based cooperative of Angus beef producers, has begun providing high quality, 100 percent all natural beef to restaurants and other retailers, according to President Scott Shults.

Missouri Enterprise has assisted the Coop for the last several years with feasibility studies, marketing and business plans.

Shults says that the Coop's beef is age and source verified with complete trace back capabilities. Its cattle are grain fed and its products are dry aged to perfection.

Shults can be reached via e-mail at shults@fidnet.com