

GLOBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Standardizing Business & Manufacturing Around the World

A key strategy contributing to Prent's success as a global thermoforming leader centers on our ability to standardize not only our facilities, equipment, systems, processes and training—but our information technology as well.

"We refer to our primary information technology system as TES," explains Steve Zimmerman, Prent's Chief Information Officer, who guides the work of over a dozen members of his IT team around the world. "We designed it completely in-house to perfectly align with our business and manufacturing needs around the world. It's a cross-functional, enterprise resource planning system integrating all our business and manufacturing processes into one connected environment—sales, project management, ERP, production scheduling, manufacturing execution system and more."

But it's not just Prent reaping the benefits from TES. "Customers are finding it's good for them as well," reports Zimmerman. "I think they are impressed when they tour our facilities and see how our production schedule really operates. It's an exceptional system because we have immediate visibility and access to information when and where we need it."

Here are some of the reasons customers appreciate TES:

- ★ Since our IT systems are globally identical, it assures customers that our processes are also the same—no matter where their packages are thermoformed.
- ★ Because any package can be thermoformed at any Prent facility, customers enjoy peace-of-mind knowing the potential for supply disruption is highly minimized since all Prent IT systems and equipment are identical at all facilities.
- ★ TES frequently enables us to reduce customer lead times by rapidly transferring customer changes, work orders or other requests directly to the manufacturing floor.
- ★ TES puts so much cross-functional information at our fingertips that we're able to quickly answer customer inquiries.
- ★ TES allows Prent to simultaneously and continuously drive improvement plans around the world.
- ★ Employees can easily move from one plant to another for training or to provide additional staffing because of our common global IT and thermoforming systems.

NEWSPRENT

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Student Co-Ops are Serious Business at Prent

Not just anybody can land a coveted paid Prent Co-Op position. Yes—candidates must not only be outstanding students in a related packaging or engineering program. But they must also possess the “it factor”—the intangible trait necessary to be successful in a Prent Co-Op.



Sean Dill
Human Resource
Generalist

Sean Dill, Prent Human Resource Generalist, has a knack for finding the perfect students. “To get such a good fit, we go through a detailed search process to sift and winnow out students,” he says.

“There are some candidates that look great on paper, but after meeting with them you find they might not be the right fit for our close-knit design, engineering and manufacturing teams,” he explains.

“We want Prent Co-Ops to be important to the student and to Prent. It’s a big commitment for a student to leave school for six to nine months and come to Prent.”

Sean Dill, Prent Human Resource Generalist

Fortunately, Prent has an excellent reputation and students frequently seek us out during campus Career Fairs. However, Prent’s selection process begins long before the actual Career Fair. Sean researches students on school websites looking for potential candidates, pro-actively conducts phone interviews, followed by in-person interviews. Thanks to this rigorous process, he’s prepared to make Co-Op offers on the spot, rarely letting potential candidates slip away to other companies.



Brandon Zeilinger

Brandon Zeilinger, Tool Engineer

“I was skeptical at first whether I wanted to take a semester off from college for a Co-Op, but I’m sure glad I did. The hands-on experience I’m getting in complex thermoform tooling and engineering is something you can’t get in a classroom,” enthuses Brandon Zeilinger, a University of Wisconsin-Stout Manufacturing Engineering student participating in a six month Co-Op designing tool molds, plugs and cutouts using Solid Works computer program. A Janesville, Wisconsin native, he’s an avid outdoorsman enjoying hunting, boating, camping and snowboarding.

Michelle Rademacher, Package Designer

“Although I plan on a career in retail packaging, I’m gaining valuable experience designing medical trays, as well as gaining an understanding of different plastics suitable to various packages. I’m learning so much about solving challenging packaging problems,” reports Michelle, a Prent Co-Op student as well as one of our two-year Scholarship winners. Michelle is a Packaging major at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, who plans to be a consumer products structural packaging design engineer after graduating in May. A native of New Hope, Minnesota, her hobbies include designing packages, playing musical instruments, slackline and spending time with friends.



Michelle Rademacher



Rachel Sabatke

Rachel Sabatke, Package Designer

UW-Stout Packaging major Rachel Sabatke has been enjoying a Co-Op position in Prent’s Development Department for the past eight months. “My experience here has given me a well-rounded understanding of the elements of design, tool creation and good manufacturing practices—from creation to customer,” explains Rachel, who has been a great asset to Prent’s design teams. “I think I would enjoy making medical packaging the focus of my career. There is much room for creativity in the interesting and complex process of medical packaging.” Rachel will be graduating in May.

Tom Schmidt, Package Engineer

For the past several months, Tom Schmidt, a UW-Platteville senior studying Mechanical Engineering, has been enjoying a Prent Co-Op in our Manufacturing Engineering Department. He first learned about Prent during a tour of our Shanghai facility during a study-abroad trip. “Prent was very open, giving us a comprehensive tour of the facility, something other manufacturers did not do,” he notes. An avid mountain biker, this spring Tom combined his love of engineering with his favorite sport and took a bike frame construction course in British Columbia. “I came home with a custom frame that I’m using on Wisconsin trails.”



Tom Schmidt

Visit PRENT at these shows!

MEDETEC China

September 25-26, 2013
Shanghai World Expo Exhibition & Convention Center, Booth 537
Shanghai, CHINA

INTERPHEX Medical Device

Puerto Rico 2013
October 10-11, 2013
Puerto Rico Convention Center, Booth 611
San Juan, PUERTO RICO

MD&M MINNEAPOLIS 2013

October 29-30, 2013
Minneapolis Convention Center
Minneapolis, MN, USA

CMEF--China International Medical Equipment Fair

November 3-6, 2013
Xiamen International Conference & Exhibition Center
Siming District, Xiamen, Fujian, CHINA

COMPAMED 2013

November 20-22, 2013
Dusseldorf Trade Fair Centre
Dusseldorf, GERMANY

HEALTHPACK EUROPE

December 2-4, 2013
Crowne Plaza Brussels—Le Palace
Brussels, BELGIUM

MD&M WEST 2014

February 11-13, 2014
Anaheim Convention Center, Booth 2033
Anaheim, CA, USA

LIFE SCIENCES FORUM COSTA RICA

March 18-20, 2014
San Jose, COSTA RICA

MEDETEC UK

May 14-15, 2014
West Hall, Olympia
London, UK

MEDETEC EUROPE

June 3-5, 2014
Messe Stuttgart
Stuttgart, GERMANY

MD&M East 2014

June 10-12, 2014
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center,
Booth 2119
New York, NY, USA

Biking with Kamal



Thanks to Malaysia's abundant national wonders, developed roads, food and lodging facilities, it plays host to several national cycling events every year. Local events also abound, like the recent 50km Pocong Nite Ride.

Pictured left are Prent Malaysia employees Kamal Abdullah (Senior Maintenance Engineer) and Al Muhazam (Application Engineer) who are part of an active off-road cycling team that participated in the Pocong Nite Rides.

"Our cycling team members range from age 12 to 50 and we enjoy many adventurous bike

challenges together," says Kamal, who described the downhill portion of the Pocong event as a "heart thumping sweet ride!"

Searching for the Best-of-the-Best

During the recent three day Career Fair KEPAK Exhibition, interest in Prent was high and our Malaysian Human Resources Team kept very busy distributing information to aspiring candidates.

A Trip to Gunung Ledang Waterfall

This summer, more than 100 Prent Malaysia employees enjoyed clear skies and abundant sunshine during their trip to Gunung Ledang National Park and its beautiful waterfalls. At 1,256 meters high with a good trail to the peak, Gunung Ledang is the most climbed mountain in Malaysia. Employees participated in many activities including hiking, picnicking, swimming (left) and much laughter.



Art of the Bonsai

It's been said that cultivating BONSAI is not only a form of art, but a test of endurance.

Luis Vega Rodriguez (Prent Puerto Rico Lead Quality Associate), couldn't agree more. He's been growing bonsai for the past 11 years.

Luis is passionate about his hobby. "You learn to treasure your Bonsai. Suffer when the tree suffers. Rejoice when the tree shines. All the effort and dedication you give to Bonsai, you get back with its beauty and majesty," he explains. Today Luis has 25 to 30 plants including juniper, Fukien tea (tree of a thousand stars), desert rose, guava, bougainvillea, jade, Benjamin ficus, green emerald ficus and more. His oldest plant is nine years old.

Puerto Rico is an ideal place to grow bonsai because the climate makes it easy to grow both foreign and tropical trees. For enthusiasts like Luis, there are also numerous Bonsai Clubs and competitions where growers can learn more and share their work.

Jade and desert rose are the easiest to grow. "They are simple to propagate and require very little maintenance. But, it's important to have the time necessary to devote to the trees. Patience is important because it's a long-term art. Finally, but not least of all," says Luis, "you must understand your bonsai. By knowing what the tree needs (sun, water, food, wind, location), you will have a plant that can live up to its splendor."

For Luis, the art of Bonsai runs in his family. Recently, he's been teaching his little brother—who already has a few of them—plus helping his father-in-law grow his collection, which is larger than Luis'.

"You learn to treasure your Bonsai.

Suffer when the tree suffers. Rejoice when the tree shines. All the effort and dedication you give to Bonsai, you get back with its beauty and majesty,"

- Luis Vega Rodriguez



Luis Vega Rodriguez

Prent Puerto Rico Lead Quality Associate Luis Vega Rodriguez has been shaping bonsai into graceful forms for the past 11 years, including the three pictured here. Clockwise from the top right corner is a three-year old cascading Jade, a five-year old Green Emerald Ficus and a seven-year old Juniper. The Ficus is planted through a hole at the center of a sea coral rock to create a different look. The roots are growing through and over the coral.



**REUSE
RECYCLE**

Initiative

Prent Puerto Rico is developing a "Zero Waste Zone," replicating the island-wide initiative to reduce, minimize or eliminate the generation of solid waste through reusing and recycling. Recently several employees attended a presentation by Puerto Rico's Solid Waste Department Executive Director detailing the program.

RETURNABLE CONTAINERS

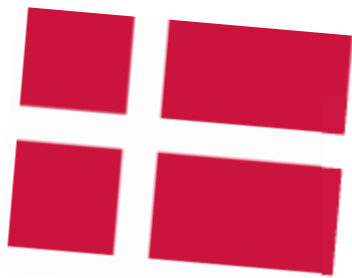
Recycling, however, is not a new concept at Prent Puerto Rico. Several years ago, we introduced an innovative returnable containers logistics program on the island.

Customers are enjoying these benefits:

- ★ Because the Containers are easily collapsible for return to Prent, they offer a closed-loop packing system, thus reducing trash and disposal issues for our customers.
- ★ To help our customers meet their sustainability goals, Prent Containers are designed to enhance cleanliness in customers' warehouses by eliminating corrugate, wooden skids and related packing materials.
- ★ Since they can be stacked four high or more, customer warehouse racks are unnecessary and parts can be densely packed into trucks.
- ★ The rugged Containers offer superior part protection.

DENMARK •

EMPLOYEES ON THE RUN



Two Prent Teams participated in the world's largest relay run, the "Denmark DHL Relay." The 32-year-old race consists of five evening runs (5K each), followed by a big social event in Copenhagen. Approximately 95% of the runners are part of company teams. Prent Denmark makes the Relay a traditional corporate event with a focus on health, fun and socializing with colleagues.



HF Chong (Prent Malaysia QA Manager-in long pants) was visiting Prent Denmark and had the opportunity to enjoy the DHL Relay Run in Copenhagen. Pictured are three Denmark employees participating in the Relay. L to R: Martin Schønberg-Hansen (Machine Operator), René Henner, (Production Manager), HF Chong; and Thomas Bendixen (Lead Mechanic.) Also participating in the Relay were Jens Johansen (QA Manager), Thomas Vikkelsø (Design Engineer), Peter Bay (Managing Director), Nadia Caspersen (Quality Technician), Camilla Johansen (Picker Packer), plus Frank Henriksen (Sales Engineer)—who also competed last summer in New York's IRONMAN USA.

FLAGSTAFF •

Climbing the Majestic Peaks

Many of our Prent Flagstaff employees and family members joined 4,000 others and took the challenge to Climb the Mountain to Conquer Cancer, an annual Flagstaff event which raised \$300,000 this year. The hearty teams hiked seven miles up the Arizona Snowbowl, part of the mighty San Francisco Peaks. At an elevation of 11,500 feet, the Snowbowl is one of the oldest, continually run ski areas in the USA.



Prent Flagstaff employees and family members participating in this year's climb of the Arizona Snowbowl were: Seated L to R: Delynn Peters, Jimena Enriquez, Jamie Shontz and Kelly Thompson. Standing L to R: Heaven Ballard, Scott Negroni, Angel Ramirez, Amy Baca, Mike Mauldin, Kristen Whitson, Chris Higgins, Ruth Naliborski, Linda Yubeta, Shireene Higgins and Ian Higgins.

JANESVILLE •

Congratulations Prent Retirees

Robert Fox

For over 25 years, Robert Fox thoroughly enjoyed his job as a Prent Machine Builder. Now in retirement, he's purchased a motor home and is now rolling down the road and enjoying a little traveling freedom! In addition, he reports contemplating a move to either Arkansas or Iowa, his wife's home state. Best wishes in your retirement, Robert!



ROBERT FOX, shakes hands with Prent President Joseph T. Pregont, while fellow Machine Build employees look on.



Brigitte Bowen


Congratulations to Brigitte Bowen, Cleaning Crew, who recently retired after 11 years. She's looking forward to pursuing her many art-related hobbies including cooking, local theater, embroidery, oil painting and pen and ink drawings. She's seriously considering setting up an art studio in her home, as well as taking art classes at Blackhawk Tech. A move to New Mexico, computer classes and volunteering at a local theater may also be in her busy future. Good Luck, Brigitte! Your retirement sounds like it will be loads of fun!



John Melgard

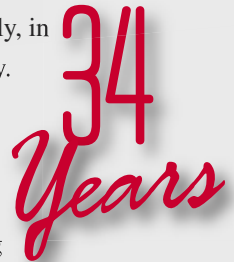
After 34 years, John Melgard (Prent Maintenance Manager) retired. John and his wife Marsha plan to remain in Janesville. He reports there are many unfinished household projects to be done, plus a lot of hunting, fishing and working on his family's Minnesota farm. Travel will just have to wait until next year! Happy Trails, John!



John Melgard Experienced It All

When John Melgard arrived in Janesville 34 years ago looking for a job, the USA was gripped with a national recession. Nobody in town seemed to be hiring. Not even General Motors or Parker Pen. 

But Prent, a 13-year old local thermoformer was growing rapidly. So rapidly, in fact, it had just added 30,000 sq. ft. to its 50,000 sq. ft. five-year old factory. And, it was quickly adding employees. Melgard was hired as a grinder and started the next day. Recently he retired from Prent after 34 years.  

It wasn't long, however, before he moved to the Maintenance Department running the single shot pilot thermoformer. From there, he continued rising through the ranks. Soon he was a Machine Operator, Set-Up Mechanic, Lead Mechanic and Foreman. 

"Then," he says, Prent President Joe Pregont, "asked me to be the Product Development Coordinator. For eight years I ran blueprints, prepared tooling jackets and managed the Sample Department and Model/Pattern Shop."

As he continued advancing, John enjoyed the many challenges thrown his way. "I supervised the Production floor several different times, plus managed the Production Control Department for two years. Fourteen years ago, I moved back to the Maintenance Department, which allowed me to be part of the company's many facility expansion projects."

John retired this summer after serving 14 years as Maintenance Department Manager. Reflecting on his 34 years, he says, "I'm proudest of helping manage the construction of our International Machine Build Facility in 2007, as well as the subsequent 40th Anniversary Party held in the new, empty building."

"Prent has afforded me numerous opportunities to grow as an employee and as a person," he continues. "I appreciated being entrusted with the many positions I've held. It's been a true privilege to work alongside hundreds of great employees, suppliers and contractors."

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JANESVILLE



Enjoying the exhilaration of completing the Tough Mudder are Janesville employees/family members (L to R): Caroline Mitchell, Terry Sanders, Justin Winters, Lindsey Winters, Casey Wulff and Alexis Burrow. Not pictured are Don Handrow and Peter Wilson.

Tough Going

Hard training, endurance and upper body strength were three ingredients the Prent Team relied on to get them through the recent 12 mile Wisconsin Tough Mudder, a military basic-training style obstacle course and fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Being a Mudder is all about taking on the obstacles in your life and the enormous sense of accomplishment you feel when you overcome them.

Through four long hours Team Prent—along with 10,000 other participants—endured many obstacles such as Arctic Enema (a 30 foot long, chest-high slog through ice water), the Electric Eel (crawling through water with electric shock wires dangling from above), Hold Your Wood (carrying a very long, very large log), Walk the Plank (high jumping into a mud pool), Boa Constrictor (crawling through long narrow mud-filled metal tubes), the Cage Crawl (pulling and swimming through a maze of chain link fencing) and much more. With adrenaline pumping, team Prent started together and finished strong. Don Handrow, Prent Team organizer, is already recruiting employees for next year's Mudder!

SERVICE AWARDS

NAME	POSITION	FACILITY
40 YEARS		
Ronald Fellows	Product Development	Janesville
25 YEARS		
Scott Sauer	Machine Builder	Janesville
David Hathorn	Maintenance Mechanic	Janesville
20 YEARS		
Gregory Lofgren	Director of Engineering	Janesville
15 YEARS		
Charles Harris	Lead Maintenance Mechanic	Flagstaff
5 YEARS		
Peter Bay	General Manager	Denmark
Devon Bliss	Machine Operator	Janesville
Debra LaPlaca	Inspector/Packer	Janesville
Joshua Thomas	MO/Mechanic	Janesville
Shireene Higgins	PCO	Flagstaff
Lula Johnson	Inspector/Packer	Flagstaff
Stephen Seschille	Inspector/Packer	Flagstaff