

BLASTCRETE EQUIPMENT COMPANY ANNOUNCES IRONCLAD MARKETING AS AGENCY OF RECORD

Blastcrete Equipment Company, manufacturer of concrete mixers, pumps and related products, has selected IRONCLAD Marketing, Inc. as its Agency of Record. The West Fargo, N.D.-based company will manage all of Blastcrete's advertising, marketing and public relations efforts. Jim Farrell, President of Blastcrete, chose IRONCLAD based on its experience in the equipment industry and the appeal of working with a smaller, focused agency.

"As a small business ourselves, it was comforting to form a relationship with a team of people who can really relate to us," said Farrell. "I got a sincere and personal feeling from them. They took the time to get to know us, our products and our needs, and I feel this will help them effectively communicate our message."

Blastcrete started out in 1950 as a manufacturer of single- and double-chamber gunite machines. Over the years, the company has continued to innovate and grow, and now offers a full line of products for a variety of industries such as commercial and residential building, ICF and SCIP building systems, refractory and underground/mining. In addition to offering swing tube and ball-seat pumps, Blastcrete offers low-pressure squeeze pumps, ideal for shotcrete, gypsum floors, plaster and stucco, cellular concrete and concrete flat work. The company also houses an extensive inventory of accessories including high-quality pumping hoses, pipes, shotcrete nozzles and hose couplings.

IRONCLAD Marketing is looking forward to building on Blastcrete's great reputation and commitment to customer service, as well as taking new initiatives to increase brand awareness and help with the company's entry into new markets.

"We are thrilled to have been named Blastcrete's Agency of Record," said Denise Stopplesworth, President of IRONCLAD. "The company has a really great product offering and we're excited about the opportunity to help them build their marketing program and grow their brand. We're also looking forward to working with them on implementing new media vehicles."

All advertising inquiries should be directed to Stopplesworth at 701-373-0062 or denise@ironcladmktg.com. Please contact Lindsay Babb, Public Relations Director, for all public relations and related items at 701-373-0062 or lindsay@ironcladmktg.com.

ABOUT IRONCLAD MARKETING, INC.

Visit IRONCLAD Marketing's new Web site at www.ironcladmktg.com, link directly to our Facebook page or find us at www.ironcladmktg.com/facebook.html. Contact us at PO Box 733, West Fargo, ND 58078, call 701-373-0062 or e-mail denise@ironcladmktg.com.

PRICING FOR TESTING SERVICES

The Materials Testing & Research Center at The Edward Orton Jr. Ceramic Foundation has released pricing for testing services in 2010. The material testing laboratory specializes in refractory, glass, and other ceramic materials. We are a full service glass testing laboratory.

Tests offered include:

- Glass Softening Point by Fiber Elongation (ASTM C338)
- Glass Softening Point by Penetrometer (Labino)

- Glass Annealing Point by Fiber Elongation (ASTM C336)
- Glass Annealing Point and Viscosity by Bending Beam (ASTM C598)
- Molten Glass Viscosity (ASTM C965)
- Glass Liquidus Temperature (ASTM C829)
- Thermal Expansion by Vitreous Silica Dilatometer (ASTM E228)
- Electrical Resistivity (ASTM C657)
- Strength of Glass by Flexure (C158)

Please contact us for all of your material testing needs, a complete list of available tests is online: <http://ortonceramic.com/testing/>

The 2010 Testing Price List is available as a PDF at: <http://www.ortonceramic.com/testing/price.shtml>

For more information contact: The Edward Orton Ceramic Foundation, Dr. Joseph Homeny, Tel: (614) 818-1323, Fax: (614)-895-5610 or homeny@ortonceramic.com.

AMETEK LAND OFFERS FURNACE AND BOILER THERMAL IMAGING SYSTEM

FTI-Eb Borescope System Uses Small Opening to Image Furnace Temperatures When thermal imaging inside high-temperature, refractory-lined furnaces and boilers, plant operators often cut large openings in the refractory wall to view critical areas. This can result in significant heat loss as well as difficulty keeping the opening free from debris. Those drawbacks are eliminated with The FTI-Eb Borescope from AMETEK Land, which uses the rugged LAND FTI-E thermal imaging camera to accurately profile furnace temperature through a small opening in the furnace wall.

The FTI-Eb thermal imager is specifically designed for high-temperature furnaces. The camera's lens is water cooled and air purged and able to withstand temperatures up to 2192oF. It is designed to provide a wide angle view inside the furnace and is unaffected by hot CO₂ and H₂O found in most combustion atmospheres.

The easy to install and operate system features:

- A wide-angle image inside the vessel that maximizes temperature coverage
- A high-performance water cooling system with low-water flow requirements for even the highest temperature furnaces;
- An integrated air purge that keeps the optical system clear of debris while consuming minimal instrument air and
- An optional auto-retraction mechanism to protect the imager should its water cooling or air purge supply fail.

At the heart of the system is the Land FTI-E thermal imaging camera, a high-resolution radiometric thermal imager that gives detailed temperature information transmitted via high-speed digital connection. The camera, which is designed for harsh industrial environments, captures accurate temperature from over 110,000 individual temperature points.

Along with the FTI-E camera, the system includes an extensive range of dedicated system peripherals, including Land image processing software that provides flexible, on-line application specific thermal analysis, optional FTI-E control processors that provide local process control, configuration and process visualization, a ruggedized industrial housing that ensures continuous operation even under the harshest operating environments.

AMETEK Land is a unit of AMETEK, Inc. (NYSE: AME) is a leading global manufacturer of electronic instruments and electro-mechanical devices motors with annual sales of more than \$2.1 billion. For additional information, contact Ametek Land Non-Contact Temperature Measurement Solutions, 150 Freeport Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Phone: 412-826-4444. Fax: 412-826-4460. E-mail: irsales@ametek.com Website: www.ametek-land.com.

ALMATIS' SENIOR LENDERS VOTE TO SUPPORT ITS PREPACKAGED PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

Almatis is pleased to announce that, at the end of the period for the solicitation of votes, it has been informed by the balloting and claims agent, Epiq Bankruptcy Solutions, LLC that 77.4% of voting holders of its senior first lien debt ("Senior Lenders") by amount and 58.1% by number have voted to accept its prepackaged Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan"). The Plan has therefore received in excess of the level of support required for acceptance of the Plan by Senior Lenders; accepting Senior Lenders included the members of the coordination committee of the Senior Lenders and funds managed by Oaktree Capital Management, L.P. A combined hearing to approve the disclosure statement and confirm the Plan has been set for July 19, 2010.

About Chapter 11

Chapter 11 provides a recognized and practical legal framework to reorganize over-indebted businesses subject to supervision by the US Bankruptcy Court. The effect of a Chapter 11 filing is to provide a company with protection from its creditors while it develops and implements a plan to reorganize its debt and, if necessary, its operations. Chapter 11 allows the company to continue to operate and maintain its business, under the control of the company's current management ("in the ordinary course") during the restructuring process. This includes, among other things, servicing its customers, receiving supplies and paying wages and salaries to its employees. The process is therefore regularly used by fundamentally sound operating companies to protect enterprise value as they reorganize their debt in an orderly process. Almatis has chosen Chapter 11 as the preferred legal tool for implementing its balance sheet restructuring following extensive evaluation of available alternatives.


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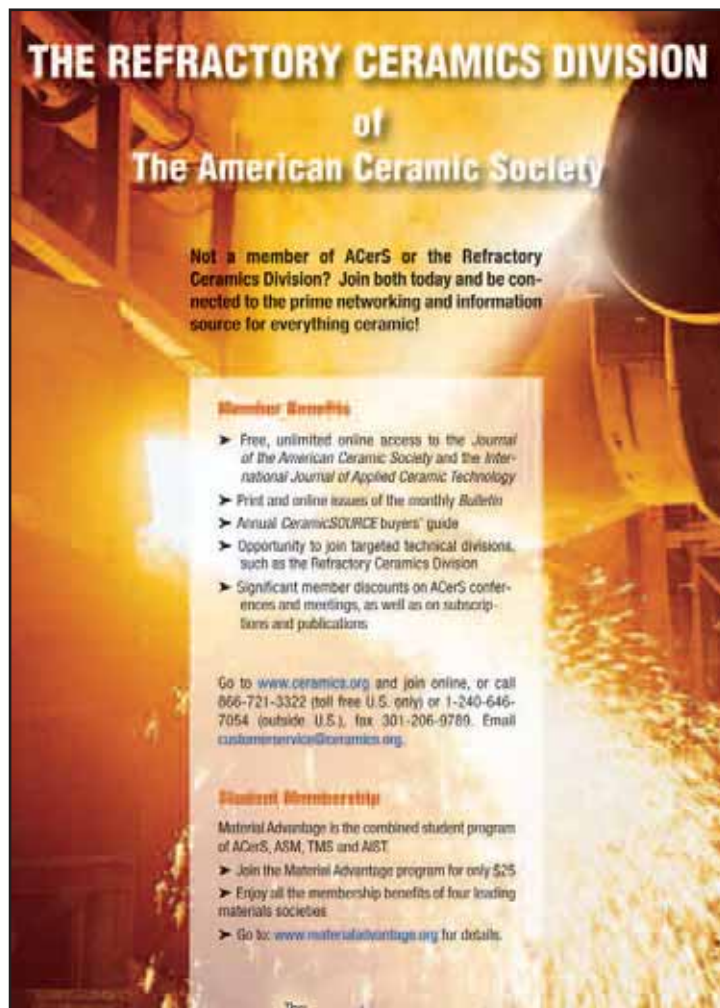
MID AMERICA BRICK SECURES FINANCING

*By Wes Duplantier, Ledger Intern
The Mexico Ledger, Mexico, MO*

Mid America Brick completed financing to re-open the former A.P. Green brick factory in Mexico on Tuesday, according to a statement from the company. In the statement, Mid America Brick president and CEO Frank Cordie thanked local, state and national investors.

"The formation of Mid America Brick has been a work in progress for four years," Cordie said. "There has been a tremendous amount of dedication, teamwork and support to make this possible." Cordie credited several politicians with helping the factory come to fruition, including state Rep. Steve Hobbs, R-Mexico, state Sen. Wes Shoemyer, D-Clarence, Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon, U.S. Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer, R-Missouri and Republican U.S. Sen. Kit Bond. Mid America Brick will produce face brick for residential and commercial building construction on the former site of one of the

world's largest fire brick manufacturers. The release said once the new plant's two kilns are fully operational, the company expects to employ about 80 people producing 60 million bricks per year. The factory is being opened in the midst of a national economic downturn, but Mid America Brick Vice President David Adams said last week that could work to the company's advantage because a decrease in housing construction has lowered contractors' brick inventories. Additionally, the weight of bricks makes them difficult to ship long distances, which drives contractors to look for local suppliers. Cordite, who has worked in the brick industry for 35 years and was an executive at A.P. Green, said the company's location in Mexico would help it reach a large number of contractors and independent suppliers. "This team and our central location will enable us to produce quality products and distribute them cost-effectively throughout the Midwestern United States," Cordie said. On Friday, Mexico City Council members unanimously approved a \$1 million CDBG loan to the project that will be funded and serviced by the state's Department of Economic Development. The loan was one of the final steps to finalizing the project. In addition to local, state and federal grants and loans, the project is also receiving private funding from St. Louis-based Advantage Capital Partners and Environmental Liability Transfer, as well as Rand Capital of Buffalo, N.Y. and Community South Bank, of Knoxville, TN. Mid America Brick will re-commission and operate the A.P. Green plant on the 100th anniversary of its opening in 1910. The release said the company would hold a ribbon cutting ceremony later in the summer. 



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