

Michigan State Industries

"Insider Newsletter"

Volume 1, Issue 3
December, 2004

www.michigan.gov/msi



Parnall Laundry Reopens



Back row (L-R): Michael T. Williams-MSI Laundry Supt., Jeff Licking, Tom Weidner. Front row (L-R): Mark Potes, Rob Walls, Dale Sumner. Not shown are: Jim Mohr and Jason Taylor.

The MSI laundry operation located in the Parnall CF in Jackson, MI reopens after closing due to a fire that took place on October 1, 2003. The fire caused approximately 1.3 million dollars of damage to the building. The exterior and interior walls of the building received the most damage, along with a tunnel washer, tunnel dryers, and some sheet ironers. The Parnall laundry resumed partial operations on April 19, 2004. Most of the laundry equipment was repaired or replaced, and they were able to process laundry for the Jackson area prisons and the Jackson County Medical Care Facility. The Brooks laundry in Muskegon, MI and the Thumb laundry in Lapeer, MI provided laundry service for other customers.

Today, through their efforts we will be back full strength with all the equipment working as of December 1st. We will also be processing laundry for all regions once again. Our staff did an excellent job of organizing, picking up and transporting the linen to our other two laundries during the downtime. The inmate staff assisted with cleaning and painting the interior. They did a great job!! By cleaning and painting the interior ourselves we saved the state well over \$135,000 based on an estimate by a cleaning company. An overall savings of approximately \$750,000 was realized by the efforts of MSI laundry supervisors and prisoner workers.

Image Panel Systems a "HIT" with Monroe Police Department



Inside offices of Monroe Police Dept. panel fabric is Warm MND Crescent Serengeti. Overhead flippers are covered in MNJ Crescent Lava. Laminate worksurface tops are a beautiful Wild Cherry.

Pictured at right is a standard L-Desk office cubicle. Metal trim paint finish is Black. Reupholstered chair fabric #5059 Confetti Black. Chair frame paint finish is Black.



The refurbishing Factory at IMAX did an absolutely wonderful job of incorporating our panels into the police depts already existing furniture. The chair refinish job was superb. Metal file cabinets were also purchased in Black.



The Monroe Police Department placed an open bid for the purchase of modular panel furniture for some of their city offices. Quite a few of the top well known office furniture companies submitted proposals along with Michigan State Industries. The final decision was made, and the bid was awarded to MSI hands down. MSI was able to meet every specification listed under the Monroe Police Department proposal requirements. Monroe Chief of Police, John B. Michrina, was extremely pleased with his experience with MSI. He wrote Lloyd Kimbrell a letter of appreciation which I would like to share with everyone. "The Monroe Police Department recently purchased modular office furniture from MSI. The furniture was all top quality, and so was everyone we dealt with at MSI. Karen Redmond took our rough ideas and turned them into professional state of the art workstations beyond anything we could have imagined. When city council balked at not awarding the contract to a local company, Karen Redmond and Mary Martin appeared before council to explain the fiscal and societal benefits of purchasing from MSI. Finally, the assembly and installation crew of Curtis White, Dallas Rairigh, and Dave Simon worked hard, worked smart, and worked with us to make everything work the way we wanted it to. From start to finish, MSI exceeded our expectations every step of the way. As a result, we have already used your convenient website to purchase additional items, and will continue to do so in the future". I would say this shows a great example of our visions and values:

- Integrity
- Teamwork
- Excellence
- Inclusion

Grand Rapids Parole Open House a Success



Overhead flippers done in a mild Crescent Lava material. Panel fabric color is Crescent Serengeti. Laminate tops in Wild Cherry.



Panel fabric is rich Gray Gemstone, overhead flippers in Chalk Gray. SofLine Elite chairs covered in Naugasoft Black Satin and #5236 black.



Metal trim paint for panels in Deep Black, vertical and lateral file cabinets in Midnight Black. Open flippers were also introduced for easy storage.



The Moduline Conference table was the talk of the Open House. These tables can be arranged and configured in numerous ways. Laminate top features a Dark Cherry finish.

Kitchen Cabinets made by Bellamy Creek.....



The MSI Wood Furniture Factory at Bellamy Creek produced and installed these great cabinets done in a rich Dark Cherry finish.



The cabinets allowed for plenty of ample storage needed just in time for the big day!! Kitchen counter tops done in rich Mystique Dawn.

Got Milk?? New MSI Dairy Operation

The MSI Dairy Operation located at the Parnall CF in Jackson, MI is up and running in a state of the art renovated facility. The new operation began full production on October 8, 2004. The operation is designed to produce 1000 gallons of milk products per hour, which is about double what it had produced in the past 12 - 15 years. Dale Baum, Superintendent of the factory stated: "This production level will obviously let us expand our markets, and help hold down overtime expenses. It is our goal, with the new facility and with some new equipment, to obtain a Grade A level plant that will enhance the marketing of our products, as well as by-products. We are working closely with the Department of Agriculture to achieve this status and hope to arrive to that level by early Spring of 2005." The factory recently employed two new staff members with expertise in dairy production. The future of the new MSI Dairy looks very bright, and the potential for an expanded product line is inevitable. The entire staff is very proud of the new facility, and would like to host an open house in the near future.





MSI Event Highlights in 2004

Let's take a moment to look back and reflect on events we held or participated in which represent our "visions and values" in the workplace.

Ionia Free Fair



Cary Adragna, MSI sales manager and Dave Hodge, former MSI sales representative chat with MDOC Director Patricia Caruso at the Ionia Free Fair which took place July 22-31. The theme of display was "Prisons in the 21st Century-Transition to Community". The display provided the public with an inside look at the MDOC department. The public was given a walk-through experience from entrance into a prison setting to exit. Other MDOC departments that participated included MCO, ERT, TPCI, Prison Build, and Health Services. The MSI display, as well as the entire exhibit was well received by fair goers.

MSI Open House



The third annual MSI open house took place on June 9th and 10th, 2004. Over 200 visitors toured the showroom over the two days. Attendees were given information on our new and existing product lines. The open house is a great avenue to showcase our products to MDOC, State Agencies, and Non-profit groups. It is also an opportunity to network with decision makers and as a result quite a few on-the-spot sales are made. The entire MSI staff assisted with making this event run smoothly. MDOC food service employees did a wonderful job with catering. Dale Baum, and his staff provided meat products for the event.

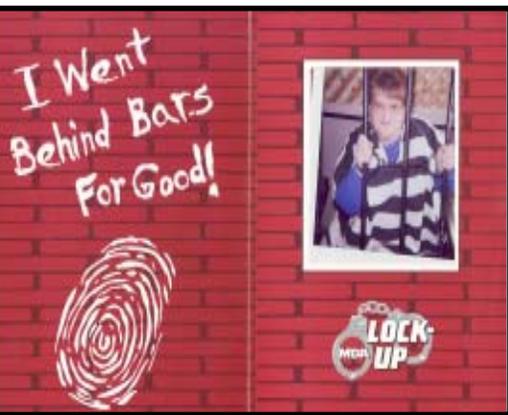
Jackie Jailed

Jackie DuBois, MSI accounts payable, had no problem being jailed for Gerri's Kids. Jackie was arrested and put behind bars for the Muscular Dystrophy Assoc. She was released after raising over \$100.00. Excellent Job Jackie!!



Charity Golf Outing

Cary Adragna, MSI sales manager hosted the Vinni Children's Charity Golf Outing on July 17, 2004. Over 80 golfers joined in the fundraising event. Carol and Mike Creed sponsored a \$100 hole for Ronald McDonald house, Wow!! Cary sponsored the outing for three charities, in honor of his father, Vince Adragna. The outing raised over \$3,800. Great Job Guys!!





Customer Testimonials

Michigan State Industries received letters of appreciation along with quite a few e-mails from customers expressing their feelings about the great service and products that we provide. We have a wonderful team of employees in our bureau, and they should be commended and recognized!!

Ionia Free Fair - *Mary Jane & Mike Holmes expressed the following: " My husband and I walked through the Department's display at the Ionia Free Fair. We were amazed at the Michigan's Correctional Facilities variety of programs. The whole display was well put together and very informative. The Michigan State Industries display was outstanding. Whoever set up the current system and the wonderful variety of products available should be commended. We hope you set up more of these displays at other public events!!*

MSI Staff at KTF - *Jeri Ann Sherry wrote: "I want to let you know how much I appreciate the teamwork and cooperation I have received from the MSI staff at KTF, specifically Roger Graham and Nanette Akkanen. Both have been welcome members of my Executive Staff and have provided essential assistance with the recent KTF Phase II kitchen and dining renovation project. The entire kitchen and dining area at KTF is under construction, forcing us to accomplish meal preparation and serving at alternate locations. Roger and Nan have been particularly helpful in allowing us to move food carts and dirty dishware carts through the MSI building. This "shortcut" greatly reduces the outdoor effort required. I am so very grateful to them for their professionalism and team spirit!!*

Camp Brighton Laundry - *Thomas Desanits e-mailed: "I want to commend Jeffery Licking and the staff at the Jackson Laundry for the excellent service you have provided us. Our female population has noticed the difference in their clothing and have reported this to me. Mr. Johnson has also reported an increase in laundry service quality and has expressed his happiness to me. Again, thank you for picking up right where you left off prior to the fire!!.*

Muskegon CF - *From Deputy Director, Barry McLemore: "We wanted to personally thank Nanette Akkanen, Becky Tonsor, and David Hodge for their efforts in completing the 30th anniversary merchandise order for MCF. It was very gratifying to read the e-mail message that Kathie Ayotte sent to show her appreciation for a job well done and to suggest that she be used as a reference for future work!! These types of comments are exactly the type that we want to reflect our goal of customer satisfaction!!*

Retirement Corner



Who's going....



Al Giroux retired from MSI after 20 years of hard work and faithful service. As Engineering Manager, Al contributed greatly to the daily operation of MSI. He was also responsible for major projects within our Agribusiness Operation. He was well liked by co-workers and staff because of his relaxed, yet outgoing demeanor. He was also very knowledgeable and extremely intelligent.

Grazina Giroux decided to retire along with her husband after 19 years of service with MSI. Grazina was Purchasing Supervisor, and responsible for maintaining major DMB contracts for materials used at all of our factory locations. She was a very nice person and a very dedicated worker. They both retired from their duties on September 30, 2004. Both will be greatly missed!!!



Al Bergeson retired from MSI after 18 years of dedicated service with MSI. Al was superintendent of the License Plate factory. He ran a very tight ship, as well as a very smooth operation. He was extremely knowledgeable of the manufacture and production of license plates. He stood his ground, and was never afraid to voice his opinion on issues regarding his factory. He was well liked by all. Al retired from his duties on October 30, 2004. We all wish him well!!!

Next Issue Topics

- New Product Reviews
 - Factory Talk
 - MSI Recycles
 - SyteLine Update
- and much more.....

Holiday Events



The Annual MSI Xmas luncheon will held on **Thursday, December 16th** at 12:00 noon. There will be lots of good things to eat, so come with your stomachs empty and enjoy a Holiday feast!! New to our Xmas celebration will be a delicious Cookie Exchange. Each participating employee will bake 3 doz cookies to exchange. This will take place on **Tuesday, December 14th.**

