

Allegheny Printed Plastics Commissions Architect to Design Plant Expansion

Studio A, Inc., an award-winning architectural firm headquartered in Charleston, South Carolina, has been commissioned to design a Green building addition to the Cranberry, PA facility.

Cranberry Township, PA, January 18, 2010 – Allegheny will add 15,000 sq. ft. to its facility in Cranberry Township, PA. The expansion will provide additional card manufacturing space and allow for relocation of Allegheny's secure card personalization and fulfillment operations.

Citing a recent McKinsey Report that unequivocally asserted that green, or sustainable and energy-efficient building is an economic and environmental imperative, Studio A's principal, Whitney Powers, AIA praised Allegheny for its decision to design with sensitivity to energy efficiency and the environment, which she feels is especially critical for a manufacturing plant. The McKinsey Report, issued by the U.S. Green Building Council, asserts: "Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO2 emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs."

"Allegheny Plastics joins a growing segment of the global manufacturing sector that has acknowledged a need to reduce its energy footprint and promote a workplace culture of energy conservation and sustainability that can enhance productivity, encourage innovation and promote an overall sense of pride in the workplace," said Powers, who is also a LEED-accredited professional (LEED-AP).

As to the expansion's architectural direction, Powers plans to seek opportunities that reflect: (1) the integrity of the structural systems and building materials; (2) the functionality and expressiveness of the environmental interventions, such as daylight openings and building entrances; and, (3) references to the local geography through native planting and respectful use of the area's natural resources and geology.

Allegheny Plastics, Inc. has a long standing cultural commitment to eco-friendly manufacturing through its Environmental Responsibility Program which incorporates environmental considerations in the product design phase, manufacturing process as well as the building envelope. "It is a natural extension of our waste reduction focused Lean Manufacturing efforts that also includes recycling, energy efficiency and maintaining clean air and water", says Don Ranalli, President. Allegheny Printed Plastics has made ongoing investments in new, innovative and greener product alternatives, including offerings that contain a recycled content and products which are biodegradable.

"Our decision to expand in this challenging economic climate is evidence of our confidence in both our business model and commitment to meeting the needs of our growing customer base. This expansion is part of an aggressive multi-year investment strategy that most recently included an investment in an eight color printing press, new roll feed collation equipment, and several high speed die cut machines featuring integrated automated camera inspection systems. Building a Green facility further demonstrates our dedication to sustainability, employee well-being and energy efficiency. It's about balancing the needs of the business with being a responsible corporate citizen", said Don Ranalli. This effort puts Allegheny squarely among those companies that have voluntarily adopted the "triple bottom line" concept, whereby social, economic and environmental benefits are the hallmarks of measuring a company's success.

About Allegheny Printed Plastics: Allegheny Printed Plastics has been producing custom printed plastics since 1936 and operates as a division of Pittsburgh, PA based Allegheny Plastics, Inc. which has a long standing reputation for excellence in the design and manufacturing of engineered plastic products. Allegheny Printed Plastics products include gift, loyalty, membership, private label credit, access control, gaming and hotel key cards. Allegheny Printed Plastics has evolved into a fast, flexible, customer focused organization to meet the demands of today's plastic card marketing programs for single source solutions for custom card production, secure card personalization, unique card packaging and card fulfillment.

www.printedplastics.com

About Studio A, Inc.: Founded in 1989 by Whitney Powers, AIA, Studio A, Inc. is an award-winning, full-service architecture firm located in downtown Charleston, South Carolina. The firm proposes that the responsibility of architecture is to cultivate a language of form that promotes a sustainable culture and landscape, and that touches the emotions of delight, surprise and wonder. From cutting-edge contemporary architecture to the preservation and restoration of historic homes, structures and sites, Studio A is committed to an interactive relationship between the natural and built environments, conservation of energy and natural resources, and an appreciation for a "sense of place" where living, working and playing are connected with the specific idiosyncrasies of culture, climate and natural landscape where they take place. The firm includes Heritage Strategy Group, a planning initiative that elaborates upon issues of the natural landscape through the lens of recreational resources and scenic byways.

www.studioa-architecture.com

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