

## Intermet appoints two executives, says farewell to die-cast president

CHICAGO — Automotive component manufacturer Intermet Corp., Fort Worth, Texas, has named a new ferrous group president and sales and strategy executive vice president while also announcing the departure of the president of its die-cast group.

Executives said the appointments were aimed at expanding executive and organizational talent in key areas. Both executives will report to Jeff Mihalic, Intermet's president and chief executive officer.

Troy Jones was named president of the ferrous group with overall responsibility for Intermet's ferrous metals operations. Jones has 15 years' manufacturing experience, previously holding leadership posts at Q Investments Ltd., Bombardier Inc. and Lockheed-Martin Corp.

Steve Lake was named executive vice president, sales and strategy, with responsibility for Intermet's customer relationships and overall business strategy. He previously was president of Intermet's domestic ferrous group, with 24 years of manufacturing and foundry operations experience. Before joining Intermet, Lake had been chief executive officer of Columbus Steel Casting Co., Columbus, Ohio.

The company also announced that Eric Showalter, group president of Intermet's die-cast group, would leave the company Oct. 31 for personal reasons. Mihalic will assume Showalter's duties with the group until a successor is named, executives said.

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## Steel, aluminum cleaning plant sets May start

CHICAGO — A new steel and aluminum cleaning facility designed to process both new steel and distressed coil steel and aluminum for service centers, distributors and insurance companies is expected to begin operating next May.

American Roll Coating & Cleaning Co. LLC, Toledo, Ohio, has purchased a former steel warehouse in the Michigan township of Erie, just north of Toledo, and is adding equipment to turn it into a processing facility, Mike Leonard, the company's president and general manager, said in a telephone interview.

A 1981-vintage wash line that was purchased and put in storage earlier this decade is being upgraded for the new facility, with additional processing capabilities to equip the plant,

which will have an annual capacity is about 200,000 tons.

The facility will use a steel-cleaning process that incorporates a high-pressure wash technique

**The plant will handle cold-rolled, hot-rolled pickled and oiled, galvanized, aluminized, aluminum and stainless steel.**

and brushes. The four-stage wash unit will include a pre-wash, a scrubber using Scotch Brite rolls and brushes, a hot water rinse and a drying unit. The line also will have the capability to apply a dry film lubrication or other coatings via a roll coater to improve cus-

tomers manufacturing processes, such as drawing for metal stamping, Leonard said.

The facility also will include edge trimming, oil and rust removal, an electrostatic oiler and a shape correction leveler.

The plant will handle cold-rolled, hot-rolled pickled and oiled, galvanized, aluminized, aluminum and stainless steel in thicknesses from 0.028 to 0.140 inch and maximum widths of 72 inches and coil sizes up to 60,000 pounds, executives said.

Leonard's majority partners in the \$3-million venture are John C. Bates, president and chief executive officer of Heidtman Steel Products Inc., and William Feniger, president of Universal Metals LLC, both in Toledo.

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## BorgWarner hiking dual-clutch module output

CHICAGO — BorgWarner Inc., Auburn Hills, Mich., has set plans to boost production of dual-clutch transmission modules fivefold over the next six years, citing its first-to-market position with the product.

At full launch under contracts in 2012 and 2013, the company expects to provide its DualTronic technology for 2.3 million dual-clutch transmissions each year, executives said. Less than 450,000 of the transmissions are produced currently, all of which have

BorgWarner modules.

The transmissions have been described by the company as using wet-friction material to allow a manual transmission to perform like an automatic transmission, but BorgWarner spokesmen didn't respond to requests for information on the breakdown of materials used in the clutch production.

Global manufacturing capacity for the dual-clutch transmission modules will be supported by the expansion of plants in China and Germany and a new plant

at an unidentified location in Mexico, executives said in a statement.

Contracts identified by BorgWarner so far for the transmissions include programs with Audi AG, Bugatti Automobiles SAS, Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp. and Volkswagen AG, with another contract involving an unidentified Japanese automaker. BorgWarner also is supplying German transmission builder Getrag for five automaker programs.

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