

# Board Converting News

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The ONLY Weekly Publication Serving the U.S. and Canadian Corrugated and Folding Carton Industries

## SKNA Acquires Empire, Scope

Smurfit Kappa North America LLC (SKNA) reported that it has acquired two long-established private corrugated sheet plants in Southern California: Empire Packaging & Displays and Scope Packaging.

Empire Packaging & Displays is located just south of Los Angeles in Carson, California, and Scope Packaging is just east of Anaheim in Orange, California. Both operations will be integrated into SKNA's existing platform in the United States and the north of Mexico.

(Cont'd on Page 97)

## Harbor Packaging Enjoys Smooth Sailing

by Jackie Schultz

For 30 years, Harbor Packaging, a sheet plant in San Diego, California, has been successfully operating under a fundamental premise in the corrugated industry — to provide quality and service to customers consistently. Yes, it's a cliché, however, some companies don't always live up to that promise.



From left, Alberto Morlett, Plant Manager, Bob Walton, Vice President of Packaging, Southwest and Mexico, and Jonathan Fikse, Director of Finance.

At Harbor, it's more than just lip service, says Bob Walton, Vice President of Packaging, Southwest and Mexico. “We have a lot of legacy customers that have been with us for 15, 20 years. They're looking for high quality boxes that get delivered when they want them. That's our reputation. We say 'yes' a lot.”

What allows Harbor to say “yes” is a redundancy in equipment at its three facilities along with a committed and motivated work force.

(Cont'd on Page 38)

## Inside

Plan Or Possibility: What Will Drive Company Succession?.....6



Pratt Industries Unveils \$260M Recycled Board Mill In Valparaiso.....14

AICC Chairman Mark Williams On The Value Of Persistence.....28

CEL Chemical's LBX-106: Changing The Game In 2016 .....59

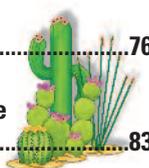
GF Puhl Production Tip: Changing Bearings On Blowers .....64



Fosber's Pallini Shares Safety Message With PCG.....69

Supplier Profile: Valco Melton, 'Thinking Outside The Box' .....75

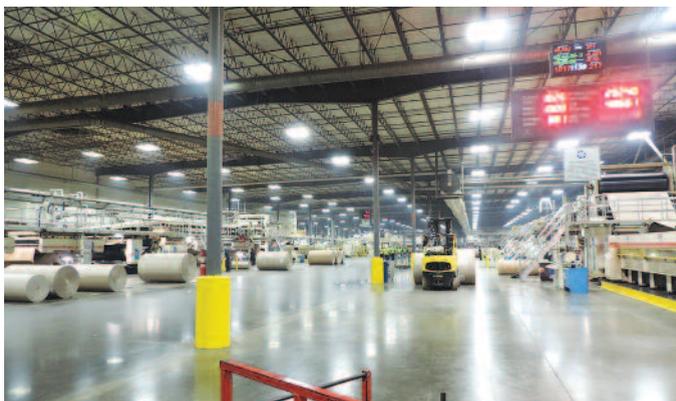
An M&A Buyer's Guide For drupa 2016. ....76



Specifying Box Performance ECT & Chalmers DST. ....83

## Pratt Industries (Cont'd from Page 20)

foot box plant, where it will be consumed by not one, but two, BHS 110-inch corrugators that will together produce more than 3.7 billion square feet per year, reportedly more than any other corrugator plant in the world.



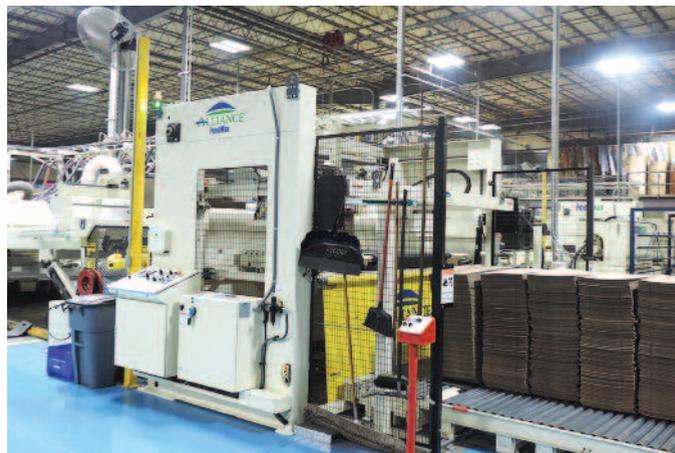
Two BHS 110-inch corrugators produce more than 3.7 billion square feet per year, reportedly more than any corrugator plant in the world

In addition to its BHS corrugators, Pratt has two Emba flexos, two Langston flexos, three Ward flexos, one Jumbo flexo, two Ward diecutters, as well as an assortment of machinery by Alliance Machine Systems, including a FeedMax, a FeedMax Block Push Bottom Feeder, and a LoadMax.

### Project Financing

The Indiana Economic Development Corp. (IEDC) offered Pratt up to \$1.2 million in conditional tax credits and up to \$200,000 in training grants based on the number of Indiana residents the company hires. Also assisting in the

project was the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority, which supported the project through its Deal Closing Fund. Energy company NIPSCO (Northern Indiana Public Service Co.), which offered Pratt an estimated \$15 million in additional energy and infrastructure incen-



Pratt Industries runs an assortment of Alliance Machine Systems equipment, including a FeedMax prefeeder.

tives. The city of Valparaiso offered tax abatement and tax increment financing, as well as conduit financing through \$200 million in industrial revenue bonds for the facility and equipment.

Visit [www.nvpublications.com](http://www.nvpublications.com) to see more photos of Pratt Industrie's mill and box plant in Valparaiso, Indiana.



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