

GSI Group launches new customer-centric website

ASSUMPTION, ILLINOIS, U.S. — GSI Group announced on Feb. 1 that it has launched the new www.grainsystems.com to satisfy the technology upgrade the agriculture industry has committed to over the past decade.

“We (GSI) have touch screen controls and smart phones that run your grain dryer. Why wouldn’t we want a website that is quick and easy to navigate?” said Grain Division President Steve Henry. “This new design allows the user to have all of the pertinent product information just a click away.”

The website’s new search function allows the user to search by product category and access a product page that immediately links

to the literature and technical manuals for viewing. This design improves service, functionality and time management. Grainsystems.com is segmented by market, allowing direct access without information crowding. Users are able to choose between Commercial Market, Farm Market or Safety upon entering the site. GSI said it remains a leader in the grain industry for safety and placed this information in a separate segment as the importance of education increases each year. GSI Group said it has a growing client base of fire departments, rescue crews and agriculture educators.

GSI Group noted it plans to release other divisional web design upgrades as the year progresses.

Ocrim supplies Libyan mill

CREMONA, ITALY — Ocrim recently announced that in 2010 it signed a contract with the Benghazi, Libya-based National Flour Mills Company (NFMC) to supply a “turn-key project” soft wheat mill with a capacity of 650 tonnes per 24 hours. NFMC is a Public Organization operating in Libya’s Cyrenaica region, and it has three important milling plants in Tobruk, Benina and El-Marj. Ocrim supplied the equipment for these mills.

The contract includes supplying the machines, installation, civil works and one year of technical assistance through specialized millers,

electricians and mechanics. The project also includes the revamping of a wheat silo — which was originally supplied by Ocrim in 1974 — with a capacity of 30,000 tonnes. Ocrim noted that the revamping of the silo will increase the loading capacity from 50 tph to 200 tph.

Ocrim noted its rich history in the Libyan market dates back to 1958 when it supplied a turn-key flour mill in Tripoli. The company said that with this project it consolidates its position in Libya.

The new mill is slated to be fully operational in the first half of 2011.

Cargotec to acquire terminal operator systems provider

HELSINKI, FINLAND — Cargotec announced on Jan. 31 that it has entered into an agreement to acquire terminal operator systems (TOS) provider Navis from Zebra Technologies Corporation. Cargotec said the transaction value is approximately \$190 million. Cargotec said that by acquiring a leading TOS provider such as Navis, Cargotec will further strengthen its ability to provide total solutions for its terminal customers.

“This acquisition supports Cargotec’s strategy to focus on customers and invest in attractive customer segments. Navis solutions are a core component of a terminal operator’s business. By adding Navis to our portfolio, we will be able to offer total solutions for terminals. We see excellent opportunities for growth and innovation,” said Mikael Mäkinen, president and chief executive officer, Cargotec.

Navis’ flexible and scalable TOS software is a leading system globally in marine terminals, rail yard operations and distribution centers. Navis systems are designed to help customers coordinate and automate the movement of containers and equipment in terminal and yard environments as well as enable customers to manage the operations of a single terminal or multiple terminals in different geographic locations from a central location.

Navis will continue its business with its customers as an independent part of Cargotec irrespective of equipment supplier. Navis’ reporting will be consolidated into Cargotec’s financial reporting once the transaction has been completed. The acquisition is subject to regulatory approvals from competition authorities, which are expected to be received during the first quarter of 2011.

Eurofins appoints new chief scientific officer

DES MOINES, IOWA, U.S. — Eurofins Scientific announced on Jan. 20 that it has hired Dr. Douglas Marshall as its new chief scientific officer, microbiology. Marshall will lead technological development and have scientific oversight of the U.S. microbiology division that encompasses multiple microbiology testing centers in North America.

Marshall has over 20 years of experience in academia and industry. During this time, he was Associate Dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado,

contributing editor for the scientific journal Food Microbiology, and in a joint venture with Eurofins Central Analytical Laboratory, he served as co-founder, director of technical services, and president of the Food Safety Institute, LLC. With over 230 publications, his expertise is developing methods to rapidly detect and control food-borne pathogens. Marshall is a past recipient of the International Association for Food Protection Educator Award and is a Fellow of the Institute of Food Technologists.

4B Braime opens new subsidiary in Australia

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA — 4B Braime, a leading supplier of elevator and conveyor components, has created a new operation especially for the Australian market. The new subsidiary, 4B Australia, located in Brisbane, was officially incorporated on Dec. 1 and is now fully operational under the leadership of Managing Director Paul Dennis, former product development manager at Fenner Dunlop Conveyor Services.

4B Braime said that 4B Australia has been created owing to the importance of the region in the company’s growth plans. 4B Braime noted it has been serving customers in the area for many years.

4B Australia’s mother company, 4B Braime, celebrated its 120th anniversary in 2008 and has been a pioneer of the material handling industry, introducing the first seamless steel elevator bucket back in 1909.