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News of Plumbing • Heating • Cooling • Industrial Piping Distribution



**Incorporating
our 2011-12
Listing of
Manufacturers'
Representatives!**

Section begins on page 40.

The Executive Committee of the Association of Independent Manufacturers Representatives are (top row, l-r): Rick Root, Bailey Sales & Assoc.; Alan Guidish, CPMR, Preferred Sales; Ken McGregor, CPMR, McGregor & Associates; and Mark Creyer, L&R Associates. Across the bottom are: Brian Burke, CPMR, Burke Agency, Inc.; Steve Fleming, CPMR, Reid Pacific Co.; and Mike Parham, Pepco Sales. See Mary Jo Martin's Q&A with incoming AIM/R president Ken McGregor on page 24.

A. O. Smith to acquire Lochinvar

MILWAUKEE — A. O. Smith Corporation has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Lochinvar Corporation of Lebanon, Tenn., for \$418 million and will not assume Lochinvar's existing debt.

Privately held Lochinvar is a leading manufacturer of high-efficiency boilers used in commercial and residential hydronic heating and hot water applications. A. O. Smith expects the acquisition to be accretive
(Turn to \$418m deal... page 94.)

NIBCO expands PEX operations

ELKHART, IND. — NIBCO held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house on June 9 to mark the official completion of its iron valve plant expansion and grand opening of its new distribution center at 4747 State Highway 151, Blytheville, Ark. The event was well attended by a large group of customers, city and state officials, business leaders and NIBCO executives.

(Turn to Gala marks... page 103.)

United Pipe & Steel opens Texas facility

BY MARY JO MARTIN
Editorial director

Believing that the Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas markets represent

great opportunity for the future, commodity pipe master distributor United Pipe & Steel recently opened its seventh distribution center — this one in Corsicana, Texas, just south of Dallas.

With headquarters and a DC in Ipswich, Mass.,



United Pipe & Steel Corp.
The Industry Leader in Pipe Products Distribution

United Pipe also has distribution centers in Easton, Pa.; Elyria, Ohio; Franklin, Ind.; Burlington, N.C.; and Loves Park, Ill. This network of DCs allows United Pipe to ship to wholesalers in 38 states.

This massive 200,000-square-foot facility
(Turn to New Texas... page 107.)



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Water efficient toilet

Thanks to its 3" hybrid flush valve, the U.S.-made Alto 1.28 flushes 600 grams. The new toilet comes in three configurations — ADA, elongated and round front. It features jet and hydraulic enhancements that virtually eliminate clogs, is compliant with WaterSense™ and meets Buy America and ARRA requirements.

Mansfield Plumbing.

www.mansfieldplumbing.com

Tape measure for pipe

The Pipe Friendly™ tape measure features a patented end piece with a built-in J-shaped hook, which significantly



improves the ability of the tape measure to hook its blade onto the edge of a thin object. Great for measuring pipes, conduit, paneling, siding, sheet metal and much more. **Tekforce.**

www.pipefriendlytapemeasure.com

Vandal-resistant fountains

VersaCoolerII water coolers have 14 gauge stainless steel heavy-duty galvanized frames, with galvanized steel screens to prevent objects from being inserted into ventilation panels or into the underside of units. A 1-piece, low-flow, chrome-plated solid construction bubbler is keyed into place to prevent destruction. Available in 2 models, with and without filtration and refrigeration. Components are lead-free; all units are ADA compliant when properly installed. Can be equipped with the Oasis Green Filter® system to decrease contaminants and reduce taste and odor. **Oasis International.**

www.oasiscoolers.com

Offset pipe clamp facilitates professional installations



does away with makeshift installations. **Sioux Chief.**

www.siouxchief.com

The new Main Block™ 1½" offset pipe clamp is designed with 3-axis holding power and rigidly secures ¾" to 1" CTS water main inlets, appliance and fixture stub outs, water heater and softener loops. The two-piece pipe clamp is a non-corrosive and 100% compatible with copper, PEX, PVC and CPVC. It installs quickly and is packaged with all installation hardware. Creates a solid connection that ensures a uniform, professional look every time and

Lead-free thermostatic faucets

LavSafe commercial, industrial and residential faucets feature an internal thermostatic valve. Key components are above sink level for easy access; no need for a separate tempering valve below the point of use, so there are fewer parts and fewer potential leak points. Available in 2 contemporary models, standard and gooseneck; both meet ASSE 1070, have ADA-compliant handles and are certified to be lead free in accordance with NSF/ANSI 61 plus Annex G. Low flow models are available between .5 and 1.5 gpm. **Watts Water Technologies.**

www.lavsafe.com



Macerating toilet



The Ascent II macerating toilet system features a 1.28-gpf high-efficiency toilet for a macerating system. RazorCut™ technology allows improved maceration of waste and a removable service panel provides quick access to the cutter area without disconnecting the plumbing. Other features include ISTTM solid state switching, a built-in alarm, LED lights with external touchpad for alarm silence and manual override. Available in round front and elongated; have improved flush performance and carry the WaterSense™ mark. Both models feature insulated tanks to eliminate sweating. **Liberty Pumps.**

www.libertypumps.com

View-only inspection camera

The 1.2-lb micro CA-100 inspection camera has a 3.5" display and 1-hand controls that make detecting and diagnosing problems easy. Image rotation function

allows the image to be positioned for the best readability in any tight situation. Has 4 adjustable LEDs in a waterproof ¾" anodized aluminum camera head on a flexible 3-ft cable. Attachments include the Hook Tip that allows users to pick up, tug, or pull small objects within reach of the cable, a Magnetic Tip that can pick up metal objects and a Mirror Tip, which lets users look around corners. **RIDGID.**

www.RIDGID.com



Faucet adapters

Adapter kits make ordering replacement parts easy. Each contains 17 adapters to solve almost any thread issue found in the field. Washer Kit has an assortment of regular and junior size washers, to replace that missing washer on the go. Shower Solution Kit features 2 different products in 3 different flow rates for shower retrofit; the Water Saving Aerator kit contains a wide selection of water-saving products. **NEOPERL.**

www.neoperl.com



Flame-free press system

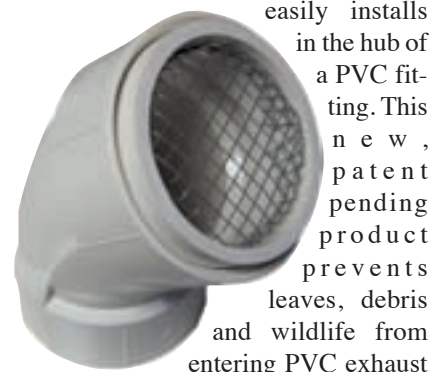
Vic-Press is an ANSI Schedule 10S pipe sized press-to-connect system designed for off-the-shelf ASTM A-312 Schedule 10S stainless steel pipe. It joins pipe in a matter of seconds. Has a life cycle of up to 3 times the end-load performance, up to 2 times the bend-load performance, up to a 52% increase in available flow and up to a 23% reduction in pressure drop per 100 linear feet of pipe. Available for ½" to 2" type 304/304L and type 316/316L pipe. Has pressure tolerances up to 500 psi and is ANSI/NSF 61 certified for potable water up to 180°F. **Victaulic.**

www.victaulic.com

Termination vent screen

The PVC Termination Vent Screen easily installs in the hub of a PVC fitting. This new, patent pending product prevents leaves, debris and wildlife from entering PVC exhaust vent piping. The PVC Termination Vent Screen is available in 2", 3" and 4" sizes. Also available with stainless steel screen. **Raven Products.**

www.ravenproducts.us



Showerheads

The Anystream® Alexandria product family includes a fixed, hand-held showerhead and three unique combination showerheads that are also available as WaterSense® certified 2.0-gpm fixtures. Feature the Anystream 360™ spray technology, allowing them to achieve a 360° rotation to the spray adjusting mechanism (handle or face-plate). User can make incremental adjustments to the spray of the showerhead through an infinite number of sprays. **Speakman Company.**

www.speakmancompany.com

