

money@readingeagle.com

Money

Maine Drilling and Blasting opens in Bethel

The 6,500-square-foot building at Berks Park 78 replaces a temporary building in Myerstown.

BY BRAD RHEIN
READING EAGLE

MAINE DRILLING and Blasting held an open house Friday at the company's new facility in Bethel Township.

The 6,500-square-foot building, located in Berks Park 78, replaces a smaller, temporary building along Route 422 in Myerstown, Lebanon County, that the company had occupied since 2009. It will employ between 60 and 70, most of them local, said Travis Martzall, division manager for the company's Mid-Atlantic division.

The facility provides engineering, safety, administrative, material storage and maintenance support for Maine Drilling and Blasting's operations in Pennsylvania. It includes office space for eight operational support personnel, a storage area for deliveries, parts, tools and small supplies, and a two-bay maintenance garage for heavy equipment and vehicle repair.

"I really take pride that we have been able to bring those New England resources locally, but we've been able to hire local people or transplant New England talent to the local market," said Martzall, who has been with the company for just over five years.

Martzall came aboard when Maine Drilling and Blasting bought Myerstown-based PA Rock, a company he and his father, Rick Martzall, owned. Rick Martzall is now a regional superintendent for Maine Drilling and Blasting.

Based in Gardiner, Maine, Maine Drilling and Blasting was founded in 1966. It specializes in drilling and blasting services for the construction



Travis Martzall, division manager for Maine Drilling and Blasting's Mid-Atlantic division, shows a drill bit at the company's new location in Bethel Township. On the pallets behind Martzall are used drill bits.



Maine Drilling and Blasting held an open house Friday at its new facility in the Berks Park 78 in Bethel Township.

and quarry markets. The company operates about 100 drills throughout the northeast, with between 10 and 20 of them in Pennsylvania.

Including the Berks County location, the company has eight locations in the northeast. The Bethel location is

the southernmost location and covers the area from the Pennsylvania-New York line, as far south as Virginia.

Martzall pointed out that the drilling and blasting done by Maine Drilling and Blasting is different than the work done in the natural-gas indus-

try, which drills hundreds of feet into the ground.

"A lot of people don't realize that you have to drill and blast to make asphalt and concrete," he said. "Anything that you're building with, you need to drill and blast in a quarry environment."

There are also many products that require drilling and blasting, including toothpaste, landscaping stones and some paint, he said.

William Purington, Maine Drilling and Blasting's president and CEO, said the company moved into Pennsylvania because the state is similar to the other Northeastern states.

"It's a mountainous area, it's a rocky area, and where there's rock, construction and development requires a need for drilling and blasting services," he said.

"If there wasn't rock here, we wouldn't be here."

Purington, whose parents, Ted and Judy, founded the company in their kitchen, said it is important to the company to hire local people.

"It's always been critical to us to be part of the community, be part of the local environment and run the location with local people," he said.

Contact Brad Rhein: 610-371-5047 or brhein@readingeagle.com.

'Last' US Airways flight leaves Philly

BY LINDA LOYD
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Today, the US Airways name will fade into aviation history.

The last US Airways flight, 1939, named for the year that US Airways' predecessor company All American Aviation began, left the gate at Philadelphia International Airport on time at 8:06 a.m. Friday and was airborne minutes later. It stopped in Charlotte, N.C., before going to Phoenix and San Francisco.

The Airbus 321 took off with 187 people aboard, leaving behind 72 disappointed standby passengers.

The plane was scheduled to leave San Francisco at 9:55 p.m. and land in Philadelphia at 6:18 a.m. today.

When Flight 1939 returns here from its 5,394-mile final journey, the 76-year-old carrier that began with airmail service in western Pennsylvania, will join other defunct airlines that include TWA, Pan Am, Eastern, Braniff, Continental and Northwest.

While other US Airways flights were to leave Philadelphia throughout the day, the airline called 1939 the "last" because the name will die on its return leg to Philadelphia, landing here as an American Airlines flight.

Airport check-in kiosks, ticket counters and gates that had been US Airways at Philadelphia International Airport will say American as of today.

The US Airways website and mobile app for ticket purchases and check-ins will no longer work. Customers will be redirected to the American website and app.

Although American and US Airways finalized their \$17 billion combination in December 2013 to create the world's largest airline by passenger traffic, it took nearly two years to integrate the passenger reservations systems, the most complicated part of any airline merger.

"We've been working on this the past 22 months," American chief information officer Maya Leibman said, about the switch to a single passenger reservation system. "We have really tested the heck out of everything. We are completely committed to get this right," she said during a conference call this week with reporters.

Most of the US Airways signage in terminals at Philadelphia airport already has been taken down.

"We are working day and night, literally, to get it done," said Cedric Rockamore, American's vice president in charge of operations in Philadelphia. Airport workers are switching out signs on roads, curbs next to terminals, and on airfield hangars and buildings.

American said it trimmed its flight schedule on Saturday by 200 flights, or 11 percent, in Philadelphia, Charlotte, and Phoenix, its former US Airways hubs, to make the

LOCAL DIGEST

Carpenter Technology appoints Audia as CFO

READING EAGLE

Spring Township-based Carpenter Technology Corp. announced Friday that Damon Audia has been named senior vice president and chief financial officer.

The appointment is effective Monday. Tim Lain, who served as acting CFO following Tony R. Thene's appointment as president and CEO in July, will resume his position as vice president, controller and chief accounting officer.

Audia brings more than 20 years of experience to Carpenter. He has spent the last 10 years with The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., where he

Penske sponsors conference in Brazil

Green Hills-based Penske Logistics will be the premier sponsor at the Automotive Logistics South America Conference at Sao Paulo, Brazil, on Nov. 3.

This event brings together automotive original equipment manufacturers, tier suppliers, policy-makers and logistics service providers to meet, share and discuss the ways in which supply chains can run more efficiently in the short and long term.

Penske Logistics executives from Brazil will also serve as panelists, help facilitate think tank sessions and exhibit.

Brazil's economic downturn. Sales Director Fabricio Orri-go will host one of several think tanks to be held on the lead logistics provider concept.

West Reading company wins award

Advantage TeleMessaging Inc., West Reading, has received the 2015 CAM-X Award of Excellence for the fourth consecutive year.

The award is presented annually by the Canadian Call Management Association, the industry's trade association for providers of call center services, including telephone answering and message delivery.

edge of account and overall impression of call.

The award was presented recently at the CAM-X 51st annual convention and trade show in Charleston, S.C.

Liberty Environmental acquires Hafer

Liberty Environmental Inc., Reading, announced the acquisition of Hafer Environmental Services Inc., also of Reading.

Founded in 2004, Liberty is a full-service environmental engineering and consulting firm.

Hafer, which was founded in 1989, provides environmental consulting services

of employees to 30.

Kutztown professor to present research

Dr. Christine "CJ" Rhoads, a professor at Kutztown University's College of Business, will present her research on health care, economics and telehealth in Pennsylvania on Tuesday.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to noon in room 117 of de Francesco Building at Kutztown University.

The presentation is on the results of a multiyear study on telehealth in Pennsylvania. The study was supported by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, an agency of the state