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 Biren
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 2005. 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 supervisors, a storage area for machinery, a storage area for delivery trucks and trailers, and a two-bay maintenance garage for heavy equipment and vehicles.

“Really, we are able to bring those New England resources locally, but we’ve also been able to hire local people or transport New England talent to the local market,” said Martzall, who has been with the company for over 15 years.

Martzall said that 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 Greenland, Maine, Maine Drilling and Blasting was founded in 1866. It specializes in drilling and blasting services for the construction and quarry markets.

The company operates over 100 drills throughout the northeast, with between 15 and 20 of them in Pennsylvania.

Including the Berks County location, the company has eight locations in the north central region of Pennsylvania. The Bethel location is the southernmost location and covers the area from Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, as far south as Virginia.

Martzall pointed out that the drilling and blasting done by Maine Drilling and Blasting is different from that done in the natural gas industry, 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 be able to blast in a quarry environment.”

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

William Purinogle, 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 need for drilling and blasting services,” he said.

“If there wasn’t rock here, we wouldn’t be here,” Purinogle, 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 environment and run the location with local people,” he said.

Contact: 610-374-2447 or info@mainerock.com.

Last US Airways flight leaves Philly

By Linda Lloyd
The Philadelphia Inquirer

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

The last US Airways flight, 1999, only for the day that US Airways’ predecessor company All American Aviation began, left the Philadelphia International Airport on time at 6:01 a.m. Phildelphia time. It was seven minutes after 6 a.m. Philadelphia time.

The AirTran 311 took off with 187 people aboard, but a flight behind it was delayed by 72 disappointed standby passengers.

The plane was scheduled to leave Philadelphia at 9:55 a.m. and land in Philadelphia at 11:58 a.m.

When Flight 319 returned home from a 15-hour transcontinental journey, the 76-year-old carri- er began with a ritual: a live broadcast from its service in western Pennsylvania, to join the others at the airport 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 1999 the last because the name will give up 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 of today.

The US Airways website and mobile app for ticket pur- chases and check-ins will no longer work.

Customers will be redirected to the American website and app.

Although American and US Airways fly as one entity with a $17 billion combination in revenues, passengers are not required to pay the world’s largest airline by passenger traffic, it took nearly two years for American to buy the US Airways reservations systems, the most complicated part of any merger.

“We’ve been working on this the last 27 months,” American chief financial officer Maya Lehman said. “We’re committed to get this right,” she said during a conference call this week with reporters.

American Airlines signage in terminals at Philadelphia airport already has been taken down.

“We are working day and night to make sure that it gets done,” said Cedric Richmond, American’s vice president in charge of operations at Philadelphia International.

Airport workers are switching out signs on roads, curbs next to terminals, and on airfield hangars and buildings.

American Airlines’ new flight schedule on Saturday for 200 flights, or 11 percent, in Philadelphia, Charlotte, and Phoenix, its former US Airways hubs, to make the

Carpenter Technology appoints Audia as CFO

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

The announcement is effective Monday.

Tim Lain, who served as acting CFO following Tony R. Tennefjord’s departure last year, 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 past 10 years with The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., where he

Pennco sponsors conference in Brazil

Green Hills-based Pennco 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.

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

Brazil’s economic downturn. Sales Director Fabio Cezar Orzio will host one of several think tanks to be held on the logistics provider concept.

West Reading company wins award

Advantage TeleMessage Inc., West Reading, has received the 2015 CMM X Sales Excellence Award. The award was presented recently at the CMM X 58 annual convention and trade show in Charleston, S.C.

Liberty Environmental acquires Hafer

Liberty Environmental Inc., Reading, has acquired the 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 to public and private clients in 20 states. The study was supported by the Center for Regional Pennsylvania, an arm of the state edge of account and overall},

Kutztown professor to present research

Dr. Christine G. Eshleman, professor at Kutztown University’s College of Business, will present her research on health care, economics and telehealth in Pennsylvania on Nov. 4.

The event will be held from 11a.m. to noon in room 107 of the Frances Building at Kutztown University.

The presentation is the result of a multistate study on telehealth in Pennsylvania. The study was supported by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, an arm of the state.