



THE PLAIN DEALER

Business Diary

Monday, October 03, 2005

BUYOUTS

Waco Scaffolding

sold to managers

Waco International Ltd. has sold its Waco Scaffolding & Equipment business in Cleveland to the management team led by Marty Coughlin, president and chief executive officer; Larry Napolitan, chief financial officer; and Rached Karanouh, vice president of branch operations. Terms were not disclosed. Waco Scaffolding, which employs nearly 300 people in northern Ohio and a total of 900 companywide, makes scaffolding and shoring products. Its local operations include a plant in Parma.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Radiometer has

blood gas deal

Radiometer America Inc. of Westlake has reached a three- year agreement to supply its blood gas instruments and related products to Premier Purchasing Partners, a group purchasing organization for hospitals and health-care organizations. Hospital laboratories and critical-care units use the equipment to assess how well patients' lungs and kidneys are working.

TRADE MISSIONS

Cleveland lawyers

headed to Vietnam

Three Cleveland lawyers will be traveling to Vietnam under the auspices of the Friendship Foundation of American-Vietnamese to attend the LawAsia Conference in Saigon Oct. 6-9. Joseph Meissner, an attorney and director of urban development at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, will be talking about intellectual property. Patrick McLaughlin, a former U.S. attorney in Cleveland, will discuss protecting trade secrets. And Richard Herman will speak about immigration as a means toward economic development. Gia Hoa Ryan, executive director of the Cleveland-based foundation, will lead the delegation, which includes about 10 people, most of whom are from here. The Cleveland lawyers also will meet with business people in Saigon to discuss possible business opportunities in Northeast Ohio and will go to Can Tho, in the Mekong River delta, to discuss student exchanges. They also will visit Nha Trang, a coastal city that Ryan hopes will become a sister city to Cleveland.

INNOVATION

Spacecraft designer

speaking at CCC

Aerospace designer and innovator Burt Rutan will be a speaker at a conference on innovation at Cuyahoga Community College's Corporate College East on Tuesday, Oct. 11. Rutan, the designer behind Voyager, the first aircraft to fly around the world without stopping to refuel, and SpaceShipOne, the first privately funded spacecraft, will discuss the role of leadership in creating, sustaining and imbedding innovation in the culture of an organization. Other speakers will include Nancy Tennant Snyder, vice president for strategic competency creation and leadership development at Whirlpool Corp. and co-author of "Strategic Innovation: Embedding Innovation as a Core Competency in Your Organization." The conference is hosted by Cuyahoga Community College's corporate college division and the Northeast Ohio Human Resource Planning Society. The fee of \$245 includes continental breakfast, lunch, workshops and a network reception.

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