



INTEPLAST'S SUCCESSFUL MANUFACTURING SUPPORTS PEOPLE

In the 21st Century, Inteplast has focused on thriving in production as well as celebrating a sustainable workforce.

Inteplast Group, headquartered in Livingston, New Jersey, has made contributions to the manufacturing industry for 25 years. It's a company where the quality of products matter immensely. However, the importance of the people behind the production of items spanning trashcan liners to decking to T-shirt bags – matters much more.

According to a June article in *The Wall Street Journal*, manufacturing is steadily making its way back into the United States after cutting 5.7 million jobs overall from 2000 to 2010. More than 33 percent of these jobs were in the manufacturing sector.

As the country moves through a revival of the manufacturing industry, Inteplast Group is celebrating its silver anniversary. For more than two decades the company made it a priority to retain every one of its people at its American, despite enduring two recessions, one in the early 1990s and the other during 2007-2009. In the early 1990s, although Inteplast Group did find itself “struggling”, it was a time of growing pains, notes Group President Dr. John Young.

“In one nutshell, we had too much capacity, but not enough sales. However, every crisis ultimately presents itself as an opportunity, and it was our collective perseverance and teamwork that helped us to outlast all challenges. These two characteristics, perseverance and teamwork, remain deeply embedded in our Group today, driving us to never settle for the mere status quo,” notes Dr. Young.

The concept of teamwork is especially important throughout Inteplast. Manufacturing involves a host of collaborative projects – whether it's the strategy to launch a safety training program at a plant in Columbus, Ohio, or testing new products and patenting new designs – people must work together. At Inteplast, the culture is one such that people not only like to work together, they embody an attitude that encourages continuous improvement in all of their endeavors.

In the manufacturing industry informatics is essential in measuring continuous improvement, which at a glance may not always be obvious. When considering Inteplast Group's humble beginnings in Lolita, Texas, to its flourishing collaborative resources headquartered in Livingston, New Jersey – clearly growth has taken place. With more than 55 plants and locations throughout North America, Inteplast Group aims to foster environments that not only produce plastics that are reusable and incorporated into sustainable habits but that its people – from plant operators to accountants – are part of a progressive movement in American manufacturing. To learn more about Inteplast Group, visit www.inteplast.com.

