



New \$35-million process revitalizes Beauharnois operation

The current mercury-cell process for producing chlorine and caustic soda at the PPG Canada Beauharnois, Que., plant is being replaced by an advanced electrolysis technology process that will produce dramatic reductions in operating costs and boost the efficiency of the plant.

Installation of the permionic mem-

brane (PIM) cell, as the new process is called, was begun in late April of this year and is scheduled to be fully operational by December, 1990. The present facility will continue production until the new \$35-million-plus unit is completed.

"Because of health concerns, strict regulations are imposed on the use of mercury," says Mike Wolanyk,

operations superintendent, "requiring that it be handled with extreme caution, and treated after use to minimize its hazards before it is shipped to special disposal sites."

As Jack Denison, manager of operations at the Beauharnois plant says, "The plant could not survive if it had to continue to face the high operating expenses. Fortunately, the company will use an advanced new process that will provide significant reductions in operating costs and boost the efficiency of the plant — improvements that justify its continued operation."

The PIM process vs the mercury cell

In the mercury cell process, an electrical current is passed through a salt water solution (brine) contained in a cell in which precious metal-coated titanium units serve as the positively charged anode and the mercury serves as the cathode. The current flow causes the salt to

break down into separate chemical components that are eventually converted into chlorine, caustic soda and hydrogen.

Although it employs the same electrolysis principle to separate the chemical components, the PIM process is far more energy-efficient and uses two solid conductors as anode and cathode along with a permionic membrane "sieve" to separate the chlorine from the brine.

"All the employees at the plant strongly support this new investment," says Wolanyk. "It has made us all more confident about the future of the Beauharnois operations. Its installation also demonstrates the plant's commitment to the Quality Improvement program — tackling problems that hinder production or stand in the way of a more efficient workplace."

Denison adds: "The new process is going to make the plant more competitive in the 1990's."

Sale of three plants completes divestiture of architectural metals business

Metal fabricating plant sold

PPG Canada's metal fabricating plant in Strathroy, Ontario, has been sold to Jannock Steel Fabricating Company of Toronto.

The sale is in line with PPG Canada's strategic plans to completely divest itself of its architectural metals business, including plants in Oakville and London, Ont., as well as Strathroy, that were geared to the manufacture of glass and aluminum windows, doors and curtain wall components.

"We are pleased that we were able to sell the Strathroy facility as an ongoing business, says Ken Linton, general manager, branch distribution and ARG. "Jannock Steel will continue operation of the plant and the PPG Canada staff will become Jannock employees."

A large well-established Canadian construction company specializing in the building of roofs, siding and floors, Jannock's most prominent recent project

is the contract to install the roof panels on Toronto's new retractable roof SkyDome stadium.

London plant closes

The aging PPG Canada aluminum anodizing plant and property in London, Ont., has been sold and PPG operations commitments have been fulfilled — at the end of March, 1989.

The plant had 17 employees on the payroll at the time of its closure. As part of the severance package, the company worked with the employees to assist them in locating other employment.

Oakville Plant

An agreement has been reached with Extrudex Aluminum of Weston, Ont. to purchase the property and assets of PPG Canada's Oakville metal extrusion plant. PPG Canada has announced its intention to discontinue operating this plant June 20, 1989.

PPG Canada Inc.

First Quarter 1989 Net Sales
(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

Group	1989	1988
Glass Group	\$67,870	\$68,693
Coatings and Resins Group	\$50,893	\$51,753
Chemicals Group	\$11,902	\$9,546
Total PPG Canada Inc.	\$130,665	\$129,992

PPG Canada sales for the first quarter of 1989 increased by 0.5 per cent from the same period in 1988.

Glass Group's quarterly sales declined slightly, due to a return to more normal season demand levels in the flat glass market from exceptionally strong demand levels of a year ago. Sales rose, however, for original equipment and automotive replacement glass.

Sales of the Coatings and Resins Group for the first quarter this year also declined slightly from the first quarter in 1988. The decline is due to lower trade paint and OEM automotive coating sales.

Stronger market prices for the chemical products resulted in a substantial first quarter sales increase compared to last year for the Chemicals Group. Production is currently at full capacity.



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QUALITY
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To kick-off the start of the Quality Improvement process at the C & R plant in Clarkson, a Quality Improvement poster contest was held. The winning designs shown above are by (left to right): Ed Krahn, production worker, Mike Perrone, Chrysler account rep, and Hallis Jialal, chemist. The winning posters will be displayed throughout the C & R plant.

Lumina APV is first to put Low-E on the road

The Duplate plant in Hawkesbury, Ont., has begun producing solar-control coated windshields for the 1990 Chevrolet Lumina APV (all-purpose vehicle) minivan that General Motors Corp. says is the "coolest" under the sun. Literally.

The only plant in the PPG glass-plant family to be awarded such a contract, Hawkesbury is producing the windshields that feature a special transparent Low-E (low-emissivity) metallic coating developed by PPG Inc. which reduces heat build-up inside the vehicle to

improve comfort and reduce air conditioning load.

Aside from having a design like no other, the Lumina is the world's first vehicle to be equipped with a solar heat-load-reduction windshield, says GM.

PPG's Low-E coating technology was developed several years ago to provide energy efficient glass (sold under the Sungate® name) for manufacturers of residential windows and doors. It was only a recent breakthrough by PPG

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Quality Achievements

QI contributions of C & R employees are recognized at awards ceremonies



PPG Quality Finishes First

Clarkson plant QI logo and slogan

A graduation luncheon was held on March 7 for 70 staff members who had attended the first Clarkson C&R plant Quality Education System course.

Initiated last November, the course

consisted of 2-1/2-hour-long instructional sessions held once a week for a period of 10 weeks.

PPG Canada president John L. MacMillan presented diplomas to the graduates, along with a special pin that displays the C & R plant's newly created Quality logo. The logo was designed by John Ridge, sales representative, industrial. Clarkson also has adopted a Quality Slogan - "PPG Quality Finishes First" which was created by Wayne Jolly, senior technician, top coatings.

Recognition for QI contributions

In other Quality related activities, 47 Clarkson employees who have already made worthwhile contributions to the Quality process were honoured in a special awards ceremony on March 16, 1989.



Jack Kemp (right) receives his Quality Education System diploma from Joe Pinto, Clarkson plant manager and John MacMillan, PPG Canada president at Clarkson C & R plant's graduation luncheon.



Kamminey Maulkhan, lab technician I (left), Linda Hoeve, chemist II and Jolene Orlowski, chemist I receive V-neck sweaters with the Clarkson Quality logo insignia as recognition of their contribution to the QI process.



Arlene Medina, sales service, primary glass, receives her Q.E.S. diploma from "professor" Bill Handiak, at graduation ceremonies in Toronto following her successful completion of the "Quality Im-

provement Through Defect Prevention" program held at General Office. Bill, who is marketing manager, primary glass, and Albert Hensen, general credit manager, acted as program instructors.

Redesigned shipping racks simplify glass packaging procedure

Redesigned glass shipping racks at PPG's Canada's Duplate Division plant in Oshawa, Ont., have made it much easier for employees and customers to load and unload glass. And the usual dunnage of non-biodegradable styrofoam and shrink-wrap will no longer have to be contended with in the packaging of glass.

The Duplate-owned racks were redesigned at the request of General Motors of Canada.

been simplified at both ends," says Lorne MacBurnie, packaging technician at Duplate. "The reports from here and from GM are that the newly modified racks have resulted in a significant reduction in glass packing and unloading time. We are well on the way to realizing our goal of zero packing material costs and zero pollution of the environment for glass packed and shipped to this customer."

body car, the Lumina.

About 225 racks have been modified to date, with firm plans to modify an additional 100 racks. Permanent polyethylene top and bottom spacers have replaced throwaway styrofoam "hairpins" to separate the glass on the metal racks, and the stretch-wrap plastic wrapping has been replaced with securing belts.

"The whole packaging procedure has



Joe Smith, Duplate production worker, loads redesigned glass rack

Zero defects on Mazda windshields

PPG Duplate Division's Hawkesbury plant achieved its goal of zero defects for windshields supplied to the Mazda plant at Flat Rock, Michigan for the Mazda MX-6 sports coupe during the first four months of 1989.

Hawkesbury plant produces about 5,000 windshields a month for Mazda.

Don Clarke, manager of quality assurance, Duplate Division, PPG Canada, describes the achievement as "solid service."

"They're very satisfying results; Hawkesbury employees can take justifiable pride in their efforts," he comments.

Units receive safety awards

Recognizing the achievement of a noteworthy safety record of no accidents necessitating any employee being away from work, for the four-year period of January, 1985 to December, 1988 at the ALLISTON, Ont. auto glass distribution centre, the unit received the President's Safety Award at a dinner honouring

all Alliston employees held recently ... GENERAL OFFICE, Toronto has qualified for the PPG Special Safety Award, by logging three years without a disabling injury ... EDMONTON/RED DEER branch received the PPG Special Safety Award for maintaining a three-year record without an "away from work" accident.

Team at Clarkson will service foreign/domestic automakers

A special "global team" has been set up at PPG's Clarkson Coatings & Resins plant to provide technical and customer service to foreign auto producers operating manufacturing facilities in Canada.

The team, set up in October 1988, is currently servicing four foreign/domestic plants: Suzuki/GM CAMI plant in Ingersoll, Ont., Toyota Corolla plant in Cambridge, Ont., Hyundai's Sonata plant in Bromont, Que., and Honda's Civic plant in Alliston, Ont.

Team leader and global customers' marketing manager, Bill McLean says, "By assigning a specific group to each of our global customers we can give them better, more specialized service. And by working together, we can draw on the expertise of all the individuals in the global team to come up with solutions."

The global team is structured to provide each customer with immediate assistance through a marketing manager who is responsible for a Technical Service group that is located at each customer's plant. The Technical Service groups are to aid the customer by running tests on PPG products and providing technical assistance. These groups in turn receive technical support from a Technical Lab group based at PPG's Clarkson plant.

Toyota's group marketing manager is Bill McLean and tech service reps are Bill Koniuch and Ricardo Desouza;

Suzuki/GM's group marketing manager is Gino Mazzocato with tech service reps Terry Sutherland and Andy Adamczyk; Hyundai's group marketing manager is Bill McLean and tech service rep is Pierre Robidoux; and Honda's group marketing manager is Ron Nakamura with tech service reps Alan Young and Mike Stegmann.

The Technical Lab group is headed-up by Blase Robinson, technical coordinator with group members Pat Takayasu, Garry Tran, Lucy Mott, and Audrey Valentine.

Del Coskery is the global team's sales correspondent and customer service rep.

Clarkson plant supplies Hyundai with cationic electrodeposition primer (E-coat), Honda with E-coat and other primers, and Toyota and Suzuki/GM with E-coat primer and various topcoats.



Suzuki Sidekick



Toyota Corolla



Hyundai Sonata



Honda Civic

PPG Canada's Top Customers

Based on 1988 sales dollars from Canadian operations. Listed alphabetically.

Customer	Headquarters	Primary Business	Products supplied by PPG Canada
Chrysler	Windsor	Automotive	Coatings & Resins, Glass
Crystal Glass	Edmonton	ARG	Glass
Domtar	Montreal	Paper	Chemicals
Ford	Oakville	Automotive	Coatings & Resins
General Motors	Oshawa	Automotive	Coatings & Resins, Glass
Honda	Scarborough	Automotive	Coatings & Resins, Glass
Indal	Etobicoke	Building Products	Coatings & Resins, Glass
Magna	Markham	Automotive Parts	Coatings & Resins
Reynolds	Etobicoke	Building Products	Coatings & Resins
Southam	Toronto	Printing	Ink Products

Clarke appointed to international sales post

John F. Clarke, director, OEM marketing, Duplate Division for the past 13 years, has been appointed general manager, International OEM Automotive Glass Sales.

In his new position, he will continue to operate from the Ontario Sales office in Whitby, supervising personnel located in Whitby and Detroit.

An engineering graduate of Queens University with an MBA degree, Mr. Clarke was employed by the International Nickel Company as a research engineer and production supervisor at the company's nickel refinery in Port Colborne, Ont., before joining Duplate's Personnel and Industrial Relations department in May, 1966.

Since that time, he has held the positions of plant manager at PPG's Oakville, Hawkesbury and Oshawa plants, and was also director of ARG sales for Duplate Canada Limited.



John F. Clarke

In his new capacity, Mr. Clarke will be responsible for OEM sales to the "transplant" vehicle assemblies in North America and for OEM export sales from Canada and the U.S.A. to other markets of the world.

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PPG Ink Products expands B.C. and Quebec plants

To celebrate the move of its Vancouver operation to a larger facility in Delta, B.C., and the expansion of its five-year-old plant in Boucherville, Que., PPG Ink Products held two successful open houses which attracted approximately 120 customers to each location.

Both expansions were needed because of "the tremendous growth" in the B.C. and Quebec markets for the lithographic inks that both plants manufacture, said Dieter Merz, general manager.

In moving from the 8,000-sq-ft building it previously occupied to its new 16,000-sq-ft production plant in Delta, Ink Products has acquired the space for much-needed manufacturing and warehousing facilities.

The same benefits were achieved at Boucherville when a 28,000-sq-ft expansion of the Quebec plant was carried out, increasing its floor space to 43,000 sq ft.

Each expansion was completed in January of this year.

On hand to help greet guests at the official openings of the plants — Boucherville on January 23 and Delta on January 26 — were Eugene F. Mosier, group vice president, C & R, PPG Industries, Inc., Pittsburgh, and Ross Dunbar, general manager, World Ink

Products, Pittsburgh.

The employees of the two plants are proud of their efforts to satisfy customers, said Merz. And the additional plant space makes them feel more positive about their workplace, he added.

The B.C. ink plant has 15 employees and the Quebec facility employs 35. Ink Products is part of the C & R Group.



Eugene F. Mosier, group vice-president, C&R, PPG Industries, Inc., congratulates Boucherville employees at open house.