# **Specialty services company undergoes exciting changes**

Thorpe Specialty Services Corp.

horpe has always had a stellar reputation in industry as an engineering and construction company specializing in refractory linings. It has recently exploded in all business aspects: additional field service offerings, manufacturing capabilities and geographic reach. Thorpe has rebranded the company with a new logo, website and look to match the new company.

"We developed our strategy to expand our service offerings based on conversations with customers," said Thorpe President and CEO Tom Burns. "Customers today want to reduce their management of individual contractors by having fewer companies on-site that are larger, with multiple service capabilities and a robust safety culture. Expanding our services enables customers to rely on Thorpe for more than just refractory."

Thorpe's business activity level has been very high recently, providing significant

natural growth combined with acquisitions. It recently merged with an industry-leading company in nonmetallic corrosion-resistant systems, Plant Maintenance Services. The merger significantly increased the size of the company and the number of field service branch locations, field labor resources and manufacturing capabilities while expanding the combined company's customer base. New service offerings include fiberglass-reinforced plastics, dual laminates, thermoplastics, and various coating and lining systems. Other recent service expansions include scaffolding, insulation, robotic demolition and heat treating.

Thorpe has grown from having four field service locations in the Gulf Coast area to now having 18 field service locations across the Central U.S. and into Western Canada. It also boasts five manufacturing facilities with over 400,000 square feet of shop space and a workforce of over 4,000 employees.

"We're now a multidimensional company that offers full-service solutions to customers," stated Burns. "Our engineers and professionals evaluate material science, engineering principles and construction requirements to provide customers with new solutions or options for their maintenance outages or capital projects. We have experienced project management and superintendent staff, along with a large pool of skilled craftsmen and field labor across North America to execute our work. By controlling the engineering, manufacturing and installation of these important systems, Thorpe offers improved project management coordination, better schedules and price controls. This creates a safer worksite and helps customers improve their units' run times."

At Thorpe, customers and teammates are the most important aspects of the business. "A service company is only as good as its team," stated Burns.

Thorpe's leaders are very conscious of supporting and rewarding internal employees, which creates well-trained and highly motivated workers who provide excellent service.

Safety is the critical component when it comes to jobsite execution. With the slogan, "Think before you go and do," Thorpe's robust safety culture ensures each meeting is started with a safety moment. "We want our teammates to leave work in the same conditions they showed up," Burns said. "This safety-first mindset is another reason why customers come to us. We bring an expanded assortment of services with a strong safety record."

For more information, visit www. ThorpePME.com or call (713) 644-1247. •



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