

Partners in Excellence



Gelest Opens it's new Facility

By Peter Grover

Recently we visited **Dr. Barry Arkles**, Ph. D, President of Gelest, Inc. at his new facility in Morrisville, PA. Gelest is a ten year old company founded on a platform of Metal Organic and Silicon Chemistry. Gelest manufactures products for the microelectronic, diagnostic and pharmaceutical markets. Dr. Arkles simplified their product line, *"We make the little bits of chemicals that go into making special devices such as diagnostic equipment, flat panel display and microchips"*. Completed by Penn Valley Constructors in the fall of 2002, the two building project is now fully functional and servicing customers in the Fortune 200 and Hi Tech startup companies. Dr. Arkles told us that the new facility met his expectations and has allowed Gelest to transition from a startup company to a true mid sized manufacturing company. Their previous site could never have met the production, quality or security requirements.



Many of Gelest's materials are classified as high hazard and are subject to regulatory and environmental restrictions requiring a complex facility with specific construction features.



The combined **office warehouse** is a pre-engineered steel building designed to 1B (non combustable protected) standards. This 25,000 square foot building includes a flammable liquids storage (H-3) area, where masonry protection was applied to all steel columns and the HVAC system was designed to meet the requirements of NFPA 69.

The **specialty manufacturing** building is 23,000 square feet. It contains multiple reactor cells and labs. One half of this building is built to NFPA 68 which requires both damage



limiting interior walls and **explosion venting exterior walls**. The mechanical system includes delivery of **multiple process fluids** and a complex HVAC system designed to survive in a very corrosive environment. The electrical system features a backup generator and classified electric in many portions of the building. The sprinkler system is designed as a Closed-Head Aqueous Film Forming Foam System (AFFF).



Dr. Arkles commented on customer reaction by saying *"from a performance aspect everyone from Johnson & Johnson, to Dupont, to Eastman Kodak will be taking a tour. Thus far the reviews have all been positive, not only in our eyes, but also in the eyes of those who have been through facilities belonging to companies with the wherewithal to do things more than right. Gelest, in our new facility, has more than satisfied their requirements."*

When we asked Dr. Arkles to summarize his experience with Penn Valley Constructors and John DenBleyker, VP and Project Manager he said, *"Extremely positive, facilitating almost every level from the planning, through design, and construction. Penn Valley also worked with us through the financial aspects both with the banks and sales and use tax issues. Penn Valley gave us everything from soup to nuts. I have to give Penn Valley the rating of Michelin Five Stars."*

For information about Gelest, Inc. you may call them at 215-547-1015.

Penn Valley Constructors appreciates Chuck Rybny and Penn Color, Inc. for their recommendation and support in the Gelest project.

Safety – A Priority at Penn Valley

By Heidi Ganter & Chris Weight

Health Awareness Foundation

Penn Valley Constructors Superintendents recently attended a workshop on Back Injury Prevention. The workshop was made available by the Health Awareness Foundation, a non-profit organization which assists companies in creating a healthier lifestyle for their employees.

In lieu of a fee, the HAF accepted Penn Valley Constructors' donation to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

ABC STEP

The Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors offers a Safety Training and Evaluation Process (STEP) for contractors. This yearly self-audit process provides an organized approach for contractors to analyze and further develop their safety and loss prevention program.

For 2003, Penn Valley Constructors was recognized by ABC National Safety Committee at the Gold Level for its safety accomplishments.

OSHA

Congratulations to Penn Valley Constructors' Superintendents Jeff Bertoldo and Pieter Grover on completing their training and receiving certification from the Department of Labor for the OSHA 10 hour safety course. They join the rest of Penn Valley Constructors' Superintendents in being OSHA Certified.



Jeff Bertoldo & Pieter Grover

New in the Field

By Jon Otto

In the third quarter of 2003, Penn Valley Constructors started a number of new major projects including the following:



In early July we started **Insulation Materials, Inc.** in Aston, PA. This 28,000 s.f. distribution center is our third project for the March family.

At the end of July we also started work on the **Michener Museum** at Union Square in New Hope, PA.

In early August, we broke ground at **Rob's Truck & Trailer Repair** in Bristol, PA. This 28,000 s.f. building is our second project for Rob Leipziger.

In mid September we mobilized at **Haldeman Nissan** in Hamilton, NJ. This project is a service/addition

showroom and extensive remodel of the existing facility. The project will incorporate the design features of the new NREDI program.

In late September we started work for Bob and Larry Holbert at **Holbert's VW-Porsche-Audi** in Warrington, PA. This project will involve three showroom makeovers and a service addition.

Next Generation Joins Penn Valley

By Chris Weight

Penn Valley Constructors is pleased to announce the addition of **Pieter L. Grover** to its staff. Pieter, son of principal J. Peter Grover, has accepted a full time position as a project superintendent. Pieter has been a part-time employee dating back to 1994 and now joins us upon his May 2003 graduation from Green Mountain College in Vermont where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree.



Pieter brings with him an enthusiastic attitude and a desire to prove himself on his own merits. Penn Valley Constructors is delighted that Pieter's internship over the years aided him in the understanding of our dedication to quality, schedule and customer satisfaction.



Isn't it time to call us
for your next project?
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