

TRAILER BODY BUILDERS®

REACHING MANUFACTURING & DISTRIBUTING EXECUTIVES

May 2019

Trailers grab attention at
Mid-America 2019

**NATM 31st Annual
Convention highlights**

Never Satisfied

39K P 8NK

**Delta Mfg.
shows
efficient
is Green**

—See Page 20

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Trailer, truck, & body OEMs

PACCAR recently selected **Preston Feight** as its new chief executive officer, effective July 1. Feight also was elected to the company's board of directors. PACCAR is the parent company of Kenworth, Peterbilt and DAF Trucks. Feight currently serves as executive vice president at PACCAR and will succeed **Ron Armstrong**, who has served as CEO since April 2014 and plans to retire June 30. **Mark Pigott** will remain as executive chairman.

Volvo Trucks North America (VTNA) recently appointed **Jennifer Edwards** as its public relations manager. Edwards, will be responsible for all public and media relations activities for VTNA. She's a senior professional in PR and communications, with more than 16 years of trucking industry experience in North America. **Brandon Borgna**, VTNA's previous public relations manager, is now the company's director of internal communications.

Component manufacturers

Phillips Connect Technologies (PCT) recently promoted **Bill Ellis** to president, making him the first non-Phillips family member to earn the title in the company's 91-year history. Ellis joined PCT in 2017 as managing director of the company. He helped lead the effort to create the first open platform for intelligent trailers, chassis and containers, directed the formation of important supplier partnerships, and oversaw the recent acquisition of **Connected Holdings**

VMAC recently appointed **Rick Duifhuis** as its OEM division manager. Duifhuis has been a member of the VMAC team since 2005, managing several departments during his tenure, and has been working exclusively with VMAC's OEM partners for the past three years. In his new role, Duifhuis will oversee VMAC's OEM division.

Dana Incorporated recently announced that **Gajanan Gandhe** is joining the company as country leader of Dana India. In this role, Gandhe will work across Dana, including the company's business units, functional teams and joint-venture partners. Included in his responsibilities is the implementation of the company's e-Mobility strategy in this important geographic market. He will also be an active member on each of Dana's India-based boards of directors.

Axalta Coating Systems recently announced that **Michael Cash** resigned as senior vice president and president of Axalta's Industrial Coatings business to pursue an outside opportunity. Cash will be succeeded by **Rajeiv Rao**, who currently serves as Axalta's VP of global powder and business development/strategy for industrial coatings, and **David Heflin**, who currently serves as vice president of global industrial coating systems. Rao will continue to run Axalta's powder business and Heflin will be promoted to VP of global industrial liquid coatings. Rao and Heflin will serve as co-heads of Axalta's industrial coatings business.

Kinedyne recently appointed **Roger Perlstein** as its new vice president of sales and marketing. Perlstein brings more than 20 years of sales and marketing management experience to his new post, much of it in the industrial, manufacturing and transportation sectors. He previously served as secretary to the Technology Maintenance Council of the American Trucking Associations.

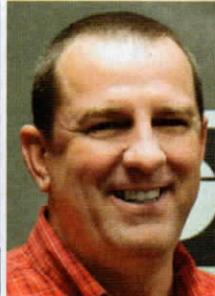
Kyle O'Dell recently was named engineering manager for **Optronics International**. He will collaborate with the new



Rick Duifhuis



Gajanan Gandhe



Kyle O'Dell

product development team and other departments to research product ideas and develop product definitions responsive to customer needs and market opportunities. O'Dell brings more than 20 years of engineering and global product development experience.



Chris Boozer



John M Stropki Jr

John Dunn recently accepted the position of strategic account manager for **Vanair**. His duties include the pursuit, development and management of strategic accounts. Dunn comes to Vanair with more than 30 years of sales experience, including managing the sales teams and dealer networks for Reading Truck Body, Knapheide Manufacturing, and Dejana Truck and Utility Equipment.

Dealers/distributors

Buyers Products recently announced **Chris Boozer** will fill the position of district sales manager for North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. Boozer will be responsible for representing Buyers Products and its associated brands throughout the territory. He most recently served as regional sales manager at Lee Transport Equipment. Boozer is taking over for **Ernie Kish**, who is retiring after over two decades with Buyers.

HDA Truck Pride recently appointed **Tina Hubbard** to chief operating officer. In her new role, Hubbard will continue management and oversight of all member, supplier and industry related activities, as well as expand her knowledge and relationships with all other key aspects of the business. Hubbard joined HDA Truck Pride in 2011 and most recently served as vice president of marketing and program management.

Obituaries

Lincoln Electric is mourning the loss of **John M Stropki Jr**, the company's former chairman, president and chief executive officer, who died May 11, at the age of 68. Stropki worked at Lincoln Electric for 41 years, serving as the company's seventh CEO from 2004 to 2012. During his tenure, he transformed operations, oversaw numerous acquisitions and product innovations, and expanded Lincoln Electric's global footprint.