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HardingPoorman Group Receives Quality Management Certification Update

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The quality management system of HardingPoorman Group has received certification under the ISO 9001:2008 standard. ISO 9000 is family of standards set in place for quality management systems and is maintained by the International Organization for Standardization. The requirements include a formalized set of procedures for all processes in the business, monitoring processes to ensure effectiveness, checking for defects with corrective action where necessary, keeping adequate records, and facilitating continual improvement.

"HardingPoorman Group was in compliance with the ISO 9001:2000 standards," said HPG CEO/President David Harding, "but we wanted to be among the first to receive this updated certification."

In addition to ISO Certification, HardingPoorman Group has introduced several new programs to facilitate a LEAN management style. 5S, a system developed by the Japanese to simplify the workplace and distinguish wasteful from value-added elements, is used to maintain a productive workspace for each of the production areas within the plant. HardingPoorman Group has also been studying the philosophies of Six Sigma, a management strategy used to remove errors and defects in business and production processes. Two HPG staff members have earned a Six Sigma Black Belt and are equipped to explain Six Sigma philosophies and principles, including supporting systems and tools. HardingPoorman has also empowered every staff member with the ability to weigh in on processes and procedures using their "My Idea" system. "My Idea" is an electronic tool available to each staff member, allowing him or her to submit ideas that simplify or create new quality procedures. To date, the system has generated over 1,100 ideas.

ABOUT HARDINGPOORMAN GROUP

The locally owned and operated HardingPoorman Group, www.hardingpoorman.com, consists of several integrated companies all under one roof. HardingPoorman Group's broad portfolio of services includes: computer-to-plate offset printing, UV printing, digital printing, variable data services, CD/DVD replication and automated packaging, mailing, comprehensive bindery, and wide format signage. The company has annual sales of \$24.8 million.

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