

## Jeff Somple promoted to president of Mack Molding

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JEFF SOMPLE

ARLINGTON -- A longtime executive at Mack Molding has been made president of the company's northern and southern divisions, a move he says will better unify the group and lead to more opportunities for employees.

Jeff Somple, of Manchester Center, and former president of Mack Molding Northern Division, became president of Mack Molding on Monday, the company announced.

Somple, who has been with Mack for 26 years, said this will better unite the company's northern and southern divisions creating more efficiency within the group and lessening some confusion customers in the marketplace might have had.

"There are some resources that we'll now be able to share," specifically internal communications, Somple said Wednesday in an interview.

"It will represent a much larger opportunity for employees in terms of career paths," Somple said. With greater communication between groups, employees will be better able to branch out and move between locations.

At its Arlington location, Mack Molding makes complete plastic and metal products for a number of markets, including medical and energy. Somple said much of the company's success can be attributed to how diverse it is with its products. The northern division also has plants in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The southern division, which has plants in the Carolinas, makes large plastic parts as well as parts for things like gardening supplies and golf carts. Somple said sometimes there is confusion about which division a customer should contact.

"For our customers it will eliminate any confusion there was in the marketplace," said Somple about his approach to the group as a whole.

For the northern division, little will change with Somple's promotion, he said. The company will continue to seek to keep its products diverse. The southern division faces different challenges, however. Somple said manufacturing is booming in the south, which on the one hand means a lot of customers, but on the other means competition.

"What I'm particularly interested in, and what I'm particularly good at, is strategic planning," Somple said. "What will the company look like in three years, five years?"

The key to Mack's success, he said, is finding niches and roles no other company has filled and this they plan to do in the southern group.

"I'm certainly looking forward to spending time down there this winter," Somple said. "I've rounded the second base of my career and it's very exciting to have this new challenge for my coming years at Mack."

In becoming the Mack Group's president, Somple takes over some duties from its chairman and chief executive officer Don Kendall, who still holds those positions.

"Jeff has been with the Mack for 26 years, and in the plastics industry even longer," said Kendall in a release. "He quickly moved up within the ranks of the sales organization to VP, Sales and Engineering. Twelve years ago, he took of the helm of Mack Molding's Northern Division and has delivered sustainable, profitable growth ever since. I am extremely pleased he has now chosen to accept this expanded role."

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