

## **Gloucester Engineering Announces Acquisition of Future Design**

**GLOUCESTER, MA March 6, 2012** - Gloucester Engineering Co. Inc. ("GEC"), a portfolio company of Blue Wolf Capital Fund II, L.P., has acquired Future Design, Inc. ("Future Design") of Toronto, Canada. Future Design is a leading manufacturer of innovative products for the flexible packaging industry. Future Design is particularly well regarded for their blown film bubble management expertise and products such as their trademarked Saturn and Perfect Balance air rings, SES evacuation systems, patented Escort collapsing frames, and Little Giant narrow web/lab lines.

Headquartered in Gloucester, MA, GEC is a leading designer and manufacturer of advanced engineered equipment for the plastics extrusion industry. GEC's equipment is used to produce sophisticated plastic film, sheet and foam for a multitude of applications around the world. The acquisition of Future Design further demonstrates GEC's commitment to innovation and product leadership.

Mark Steele, CEO of GEC, said, "We are excited to be partnering with Robert Krycki and the entire Future Design team. Over the past 34 years, Future Design has produced innovative and successful products that advance the competitiveness and return on investment for blown film producers around the world. Future Design has consistently innovated and provided excellent service through its focus on engineering, customer service and product quality. As a result, Future Design has built lasting relationships with its valued customers. Gloucester Engineering is focused on innovation and product leadership and will target companies, like Future Design, that have strong positions in attractive segments of the market. Customers that want to enhance their business through innovation will look to Gloucester Engineering and Future Design as important partners that can provide them with savings, revenue, and profit."

Carl Johnson of GEC, added, "We are excited to now offer the portfolio of products from Future Design to our global customer base. Partnering with Future Design expands our offering and will drive growth for both business units. The Future Design team's long-term commitment to innovation was very compelling to us."

Robert Krycki, Founder of Future Design, is a seasoned plastics industry executive with 42 years of experience in the plastics industry. Under his leadership, Future Design has become a recognized leader in air rings, evacuation systems, bubble management systems, extrusion systems, take off systems, dies, and feed screws. Robert will continue to support Future Design and GEC. "We are excited to be partnering with Gloucester Engineering. Gloucester's experience and financial backing will provide added sources of creativity, financial capacity, distribution and service network to continue our growth and innovation."

In addition, Benjamin Prinsen will join Future Design as Vice President and General Manager. Mr. Prinsen joins Future Design after having served in a variety of capacities at Macro Engineering for the past 19 years. Mr. Prinsen is very excited about the synergies between GEC and Future Design. "Using the GEC platform, Future Design products will be given much greater global exposure resulting in significant potential growth in previously underdeveloped or un-penetrated markets. I'm very pleased to be associated with two companies of such high caliber and long term standing in the market and am looking forward to significant growth for both myself and Future Design."

## About Future Design

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## About Gloucester Engineering Co. Inc.

Since its inception in 1961, Gloucester Engineering Co. Inc., Inc. has been a global leader in advancing quality and production limits in the plastics extrusion and converting market. GEC offers a range of innovative system and component solutions, for both new lines and retrofits, that provide customers a competitive edge in applications that include blown and cast film extrusion, foam and sheet extrusion, bag making and extrusion coating equipment. GEC manufactures its equipment from its headquarters in Gloucester, MA USA, and through its joint-venture company in Damman, India, Kabra Gloucester Engineering.

## About Blue Wolf Capital Partners LLC

Blue Wolf Capital Partners LLC is a private equity firm that invests in companies in which effective management of relationships with complex constituencies, such as government and labor, can change organizations and create value. For additional information, please visit <u>www.blue-wolf.com</u>.

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