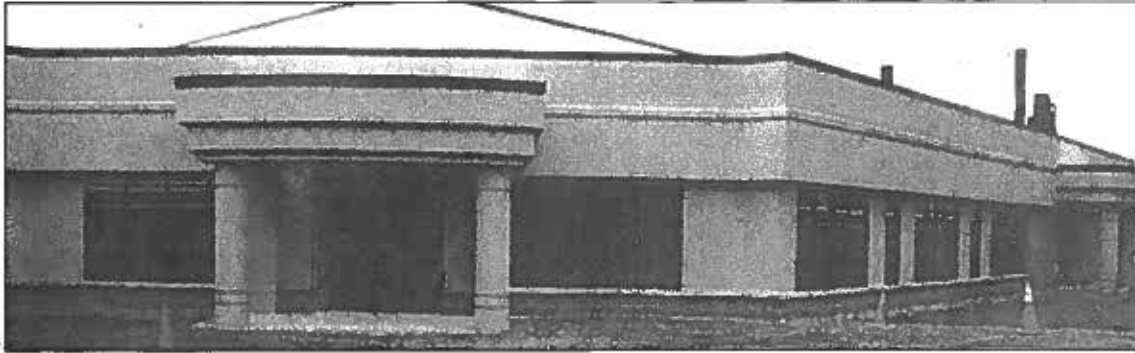


BUSINESS

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JOHN ZORNOW/WAYNE POST

Garelock's new state-of-the-art Gylon facility is part of the Palmyra company's plant refurbishing plan.



JOHN ZORNOW/WAYNE POST

An early Garlock building, built over 100 years ago.

Garlock enters new era with modernization

By **JOHN ZORNOW**
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The Garlock Packing Company is gone, but the new Garlock Sealing Technologies Division is investing in the future.

Speaking at a meeting of the Newark Rotary Club last week, Jeff Hall, manager of facilities engineering and the Palmyra Garlock renovation project, and Jim Drago, Garlock professional engineer, told of Garlock's recent projects and renovations that are transforming the company to compete in the new order of international business.

Garlock, one of the top three employers in Wayne County, was founded in nearby Port Gibson in 1887 by Olin J. Garlock. Operations began on the current

site in 1907. Mr. Garlock left his imprint on Palmyra, donating to and building the community, and he even found time to establish an automobile dealership. Garlock today is a leader in industrial fluid sealing products, the largest division of En-Pro and distributes products to 79 countries.

Hall described to Newark Rotarians via a power point presentation what is known as PMP, an acronym for "Palmyra Modernization Project." With no new buildings or updates since 1956, it was decided in 2005 that for the Palmyra operation to continue, it must be transformed into a state of the art facility, with new equipment and technology. Parent company EnPro Industries business model called for the investment of over

\$35 million in Garlock, their largest division, involving the demolition of most structures that had multi stories and had been added to several times over the years. Smart planning resulted in lower demolition costs and the use of local contractors.

Garlock's Gylon and Klosure brands are advancing the science of sealing for the 123-year-old company, as part of a well defined plan for the future. Garlock's Green Initiatives include process and site environmental projects, elimination of many solvents, as well as energy saving efforts.

Old outdated energy wasting facilities built for another era have been replaced by more efficient buildings and processes. A natural gas reduction project will

help the company be more competitive. "One Global Garlock" includes division headquarters in Palmyra with 540 employees and 16 other locations worldwide with another 1020 employees.

"For 2010, the challenges are Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades, more renovation and demolition, and two new structures," said Hall, who added that "when PMP is complete the Palmyra operation will boast 3,000 more square feet than before."

Thanks to cooperation from the Machinists Union, economic incentives from the state and local agencies and a reduction in energy consumption and costs, he said, the new Garlock is poised to compete in the world market and stay in Palmyra.