

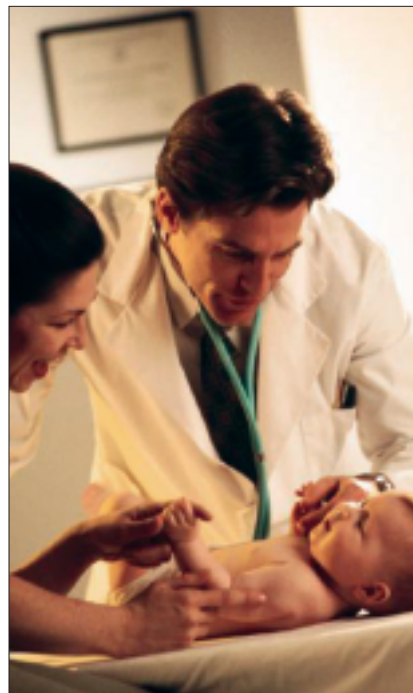
plugged in

New Healthcare Solutions: A Win-Win for Employees, T&B

As the cost of healthcare continues to skyrocket, it's easy to see why it feels that we're all paying a premium for the care we receive – a difficult situation for both employees and T&B.

Like other employers, healthcare costs for U.S. employees are significant for T&B. In 2005, the company will invest about \$26 million in healthcare, or about \$7,200 per employee. This is as much as T&B spends in a year for capital improvements to our plants and equipment.

Finding new ways to control healthcare costs for the long-term means that the company will have more capital to invest back into the business and other areas. To find solutions that meet T&B and employees' needs, employees were asked which benefits matter the most, as well as for suggestions on controlling healthcare costs for the future.



Based on that feedback, T&B has announced changes to healthcare offerings for 2005, which will include three new plans: the new Consumer Driven Plan, the Consumer Driven Plus Plan, and a PPO plan.

Win-win solutions are about sharing responsibility for results. T&B is committed to providing high-quality healthcare coverage to employees at a reasonable cost. The company has worked hard to keep employee contributions as close to 2004 levels as possible. And, with the new offerings, employees will be more involved in taking accountability for their personal health and becoming the best consumers they can.

PowerLine Online!

PowerLine is now available on T&B's intranet homepage. Click on the "Departments" link and then on the "HR" link.

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Thomas&Betts

AUTUMN 2004

powerline™

connecting Thomas & Betts employees worldwide

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Adam Burnette, assembler/packer, Athens plant.

Athens Plant Named *Industry Week* Magazine's "Best Plants" Finalist

Thomas&Betts

Athens Reaches the Big Leagues of “Best Plants”

ATHENS FACTS

Built in 1965, the plant sits on 34.5 acres in southeastern Tennessee, and has 325,000 square feet of manufacturing space under one roof.

The Athens plant became part of Thomas & Betts when the company purchased American Electric in 1992. In 1997, the Athens operation was selected as the consolidation point for extrusion operations from two other T&B facilities as well as the Taylor® wiring duct product made in the El Paso, Texas plant.

Athens produces the Steel City® brand, which has been an industry leader for more than 100 years.

Across three shifts, five days per week, the plant produces three primary product families: boxes and covers used in the construction of industrial, commercial or residential buildings; metal framing accessories that electrical and mechanical contractors use in installation; and extruded plastic wiring duct used by manufacturers in wiring and control cabinets.

Nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, you’ll find Athens, Tennessee, “The Friendly City,” and home to one of Thomas & Betts’ electrical manufacturing facilities. The plant and its 450 employees produce more than 3,000 different products each month including Steel City® and Bowers® electrical outlet boxes and covers, Superstrut® and Kindorf® metal framing accessories and Taylor® duct.



Martin Lambert, union steward.

“Their ability to improve on already strong performance is one reason they were recognized.”

In 2003, Athens was selected as “Plant of the Year” and “Most Improved Plant” for outstanding performance in the areas of finance, inventory control, customer service, quality and productivity by T&B’s Electrical division. Herb Bradshaw, general manager of Athens, accepted the “Plant of the Year” and “Most Improved Plant” awards from Chris Hartmann, Electrical president, and Tim Coates, vice president of Electrical operations.

“The Athens team managed to improve customer service levels while simultaneously reducing inventory – a very impressive accomplishment,” said Hartmann.

Coates added, “In 2003, the Athens facility went from good to great. Their ability to improve on already strong performance is one reason why they were recognized.”



Stanley Trew, tool and die specialist.

Bradshaw accepted the awards on behalf of all Athens employees. “Our dedicated employees have embraced the concepts and methodologies of lean manufacturing. Every member of our team is focused on eliminating waste and adding value. Ultimately, our goal is to respond to every customer order instantly, with perfect customer service and quality.”

More recently, Athens was selected as one of 25 finalists in *Industry Week* magazine’s 2004 Best Plants list – the magazine’s annual salute to outstanding manufacturing facilities. The award recognizes plants that are on the leading edge of efforts to increase competitiveness, enhance customer satisfaction, and create stimulating and rewarding work environments. Athens was honored alongside well-known industrial companies such as Boeing (aircraft sub-assemblies), Maytag (household dishwashers) and Dana (stainless steel oil ring expanders).



Among other things, candidates are judged on their comprehensive effort to achieve world-class manufacturing capability; strong quality systems and



Kathy Black, trim line operator.

results; employee involvement and empowerment programs that drive continuous process improvement; superior customer relationships; effective supplier-partnership programs; proactive environmental and safety practices; their record of operational improvement; and meaningful community involvement programs.

In the application to *Industry Week*, Bradshaw noted that the monumental change and shift to lean manufacturing was required to “break loose from the chains of ‘this is the way we’ve always done it’” to “how we should do it – and quickly.”

Their results speak for themselves – inventory (finished goods) is down 32 percent; floor space dedicated to material storage was reduced by 60 percent, SKU average in-stock percentage improved from 85 percent to 98 percent, and more than 70 percent of employees have been through training such as Value Stream Maps, Lean 101 and Kaizen. ■



From left: Donna Mason, Etta Wallace, Bob Miller, Vivian Hunt and Shirley Harrill.

SWEET SATISFACTION COMES FROM HELPING OUR TROOPS

The Athens plant is helping ensure that local National Guardsman – including three employees from the plant – who are stationed away from home are absent but never forgotten.

When the local Fire Chief heard that troops being staged in Mississippi had no hard candy, he asked area businesses to help. Candy customers donate bags of candy for the troops, and then several T&B employees, including Athens receptionist Vivian Hunt, as well as Shirley Harrill and Etta Wallace in the shipping department, take care of sending the candy to the camp in Mississippi.

Athens also supports other local civic, charitable and school organizations including Rogers Creek Elementary, the United Way, the Area Council for the Arts and Junior Achievement.

T&B Employees Mobilize to Support Customers in the Eye of the Storm

Charley...Ivan...Frances. Three devastating hurricanes wreaked havoc for millions of people in the southeastern U.S. within a two-month period this Fall. On a five category scale, these hurricanes were a category 4, meaning that their wind speeds reached 131 to 155 miles per hour. When hurricanes hit land, they flatten vast areas with their winds, and inundate coastal areas with the wall of water, or storm surge, that they push before them.

While T&B’s standard operating procedure is to be on alert and in a state of planful preparedness for such catastrophes, employees in many areas across the U.S. went above and beyond to support our customers in their hour of need. Here are a few of the stories that *PowerLine* received.

Charley wreaks devastation across Florida
Hurricane Charley made landfall as a category 4 hurricane on August 13, and more than 874,000 homes lost power as a result. Along one six-mile stretch of highway, crews found more than 400 power poles on the ground along with the wire they support. In the hardest hit areas, the electrical system had to be rebuilt virtually from the ground up.

Mike Paharik, T&B market development manager for the southeast U.S., assembled a storm response team with contacts at all of Steel Structure’s plants and Memphis, as well as key suppliers, to support our customer – Progress Energy.



Hurricanes downed power poles and lines throughout Florida.

Employees at T&B’s Steel Structures plants in Hager City, Wisconsin, Lancaster, South Carolina, and Houston, Texas, began production over the weekend and within days, had fabricated and shipped nearly 300 poles to Florida to support reconstruction efforts.

However, given the level of destruction, more poles were needed. Several T&B sales and distribution employees used their strong customer relationships to devise innovative solutions to the problem. Rob Davis, market distribution manager for the central U.S., Kier Cooper, sales representative in Florida, and Jim Cook, sales representative in Virginia, all identified poles that had been shipped to other customers for projects but were not yet installed. They worked with those customers to broker deals to buy them back so they could be shipped to Florida, with the understanding that T&B would replace those poles with additional production.

T&B traffic managers at all plants worked with federal authorities to negotiate waivers to allow trucks with team drivers to run nights and weekends to get the poles to Florida quickly.

On the Communications Division front, T&B’s Robert Sears, regional sales manager for Florida, worked with key customers in that area to determine what would be needed to repair the 400 miles of downed cable TV infrastructure in Port Charlotte and 100 miles of downed cable in Orlando. Robert – whose home is just north of Port Charlotte – also was personally affected as he and his family were without power for more than 50 hours. T&B’s customer service and shipping support from Byhalia, Mississippi, and Horseheads, New York, arranged to expedite the replacement product to customers.

Florida hit...again
Two weeks later, the eye of Hurricane Frances made landfall on the eastern Florida coast, pounding the central part of the state and the Panhandle. About 3 million people had no power in Florida and at least 400,000 more were without electricity in Georgia.

“Sometimes the best people have to offer is a job well done. T&B workers are doing just that.”

Again, T&B’s storm response team was standing ready to support Progress Energy. Employees at Hager City, Lancaster and Houston worked through the Labor Day holiday weekend to fabricate and ship poles to meet Progress Energy’s restoration efforts. T&B sales representatives again identified poles for delayed projects from other customers, and negotiated deals to send them to where they were desperately needed for power restoration. T&B employees mobilized and expedited the shipping effort.



T&B fabricated and shipped poles to Florida to support reconstruction efforts.

Ivan slams Gulf Coast
Weeks after Charley and Frances tore through Florida, causing dozens of deaths and billions of dollars in damage, Hurricane Ivan hit the Gulf Coast. Although T&B’s storm response team was prepared to address customer needs, Hurricane Ivan wasn’t the level of catastrophe most on the U.S. coast had feared, having done most of its damage in the Caribbean. However, 750,000 homes throughout the region lost power, most in Alabama and the Florida Panhandle.

Employees offer their best – a job well done
A positive Steel Structures Ivan story was that the “Pyramids of Pensacola” project – completed by T&B in 2000 – withstood a direct hit from category 4 Ivan with no damage.

Florida Power & Light shared their appreciation for T&B employee efforts in a letter to CEO Dominic Pileggi. "We greatly appreciate all the extra effort put forth in the wake of these catastrophic events. The restoration was truly a team effort of which we can all be proud."

As the *Red Wing Republican Eagle* newspaper in Red Wing, Minnesota, said, “Sometimes there seems to be little any of us can do when tragedy hits far away. We give to the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and churches to help with relief efforts...Sometimes the best that people have to offer is a job well done. Thomas & Betts workers are doing just that.” ■

Fighting Terrorism in the Tax Department

It's an unlikely place to think about homeland security, but T&B's tax professionals have joined forces with the U.S. Bureau of Customs and Border Protection in fighting terrorism with the company's acceptance into the U.S. Customs C-TPAT, or Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism, program.

C-TPAT program is an initiative between business and government to protect global commerce from terrorism. When training was unveiled in April 2003, T&B was one of the first major importers accepted as a member. Early memberships were limited to importers that had shown high compliance ratings in past audits, border examinations, and requests for information conducted by U.S. Customs. Official membership was achieved by T&B in July 2003.

"It's a significant honor and achievement to have been one of the first companies recognized by the Customs Agency as deserving a spot in this important program," said Joe Warren, vice president for tax at T&B.

The program calls upon importing businesses to establish policies to enhance their own security practices and those of business partners involved



T&B's participation in the C-TPAT program helps speed its imports through Customs. Photo: James Tourtellotte

in the supply chain. Once these policies are in effect, imports by these businesses are given expedited processing at ports of entry.

"Thomas & Betts imports more than \$200 million of goods annually," said Paul Schersand, manager of corporate customs for T&B. "The enhanced security requirements since 9/11 have added complexity and time to the import process. That's why we responded immediately to be part of C-TPAT. It's good for our country and good for our business."

To be accepted into the program, Schersand and Maria Cherry, T&B customs coordinator, were trained by U.S. Customs and then, with support from T&B operating groups, Human Resources, Information Technology and Transportation departments, conducted a comprehensive self-assessment of T&B's supply chain security based on C-TPAT guidelines. Enhancements to existing security procedures were then implemented based on these guidelines.

According to Schersand, T&B has experienced a reduction in the number of inspections since joining the program. In addition, T&B now has access to the Free And Secure Trade (FAST) program for expedited U.S. land border crossings with Canada and Mexico. This helps ensure that T&B continues to provide high-quality service to its customers.

In a recent interview, U.S. Customs Commissioner Robert Bonner noted that the international business community has a stake in the success of the C-TPAT program as well.

"The specter of terrorists using global commercial channels is a threat to all who benefit from world trade," said Bonner. "It is not one nation that is the target of such an attack - it is the entire world economy." ■



From left: Joe Warren, Maria Cherry and Paul Schersand.

safety zone

Lancaster Facility is OSHA Model Worksite

First in State to Achieve SHARP Certification

It's easy to say that "Safety is Job Number 1." It's harder to prove it. At T&B's Lancaster, South Carolina, Steel Structures facility they've done both.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently honored Lancaster for demonstrating exceptional achievement in improving its safety and health programs. T&B is the first manufacturer in the state of South Carolina to be accepted into the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP). Winning acceptance into the program required a complete hazard identification survey; a consultation visit by OSHA where a broad group of plant employees met with OSHA; and a Lost-Workday Injury and Illness rate below the national average.

Lancaster received a one-year exemption from programmed inspections by OSHA and is now used by the agency as an example of a 'model' worksite for safety and health.



From left: Chris Heaton, plant manager, and John Onson, HR manager.



From left: Donald Sznaski, L&S safety, and Janet Nixon, director of SC VPP program.



From left: Lynn Knight, maintenance manager and Jerry Berg, supervisor.



marketplace

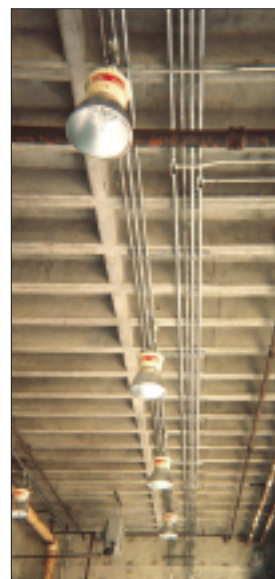
New Ty-Fast® Double Loop Cable Tie Breaks the Mold in Wire Management

In 1958, T&B invented the cable tie. In 2004, it redefined it with the introduction of the Ty-Fast® Double Loop Cable Tie. This unique tie allows the parallel routing of two bundles of cable with one single cable tie by looping twice through the head of the tie in separate latching pawls. Applications include appliance manufacturers, automotive, aerospace, data communications, and electrical equipment manufacturers.



Hazlux® Lights Up the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority

When the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) needed to find Classified (hazardous) lighting for its bus facility, T&B's Hazlux® lighting products were not their specified choice. But proving again that T&B understands and responds to customers' needs, T&B's engineers and technicians in the company's Southaven, Mississippi, lab worked closely with



the MBTA engineers to modify existing Hazlux products to meet MBTA's unique needs. T&B's goal was to exceed the customer's expectations irrespective of how many or how high the hurdles. Eight months later, MBTA's independent test lab approved the final design, allowing T&B to earn the business and unseat a competitor whose product was originally specified for the project. The MBTA service district includes 175 cities and towns and serves over one million riders daily on its bus, rail and ferry transit lines.



Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority



NJATC Trade Show Puts T&B Products in the Right Hands

T&B products were showcased at the 15th annual National Training Institute Trade Show held by the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee in Knoxville, Tennessee. Participating in this trade show gave Thomas & Betts the opportunity to meet with the IBEW-NECA trainers and the top apprentices from around the country. The trainers take the knowledge they learn from our demonstrations to apply in their classrooms. The apprentices were able to see, touch, and practice on T&B products at this hands-on show.



EKlips® Eclipses Competition

Visitors to the Fastener Fair in Telford, United Kingdom, were the first to see the new "Fast-Lock" product from T&B's EKlips® product line, now available throughout Europe. Fast-lock is used in wire suspension applications in electrical, mechanical services and HVAC installations.

According to Gary Baker, EKlips product manager, "Fast-Lock provides a versatile, easy-to-use solution which deliver tangible savings to customers by reducing installation time by 85 percent and by eliminating the need to keep inventories because Fast-Lock can be used with both 1mm and 2mm diameter wire."



empowered people

HVAC Engineering Gets Fired Up

The Reznor® brand has long stood for quality and innovation. In fact, delivering superior, cost-effective components and system solutions is critical to expanding T&B's presence in HVAC markets. To help accomplish this goal, T&B recently hired Timothy Roberts as vice president of engineering to coordinate and direct the HVAC team's global engineering activities. Roberts is a 24-year industry veteran with a strong background in both heating and cooling and a track record of bringing new products to market quickly and cost effectively. Roberts comes to T&B from the Carrier Corporation, a world leader in air conditioning, heating, and refrigeration systems.



Timothy Roberts, VP of engineering, HVAC.



Stanley Locke, VP and corporate controller.



David Alyea, VP and assistant controller.

T&B Gets a "Locke" on Control

Stanley P. Locke has joined T&B as vice president and corporate controller. He will oversee the corporation's accounting, financial reporting and financial analysis functions and serve as a business partner for the company's operating divisions.

Locke has more than 20 years experience, including 17 years with the Sara Lee Corporation, where he was extensively involved in a variety of national and international assignments focusing on business development. Most recently, Locke was with the Concord Group, a business strategy and development consultancy, where he served as managing director. Locke is a graduate of Drake University and earned an M.B.A. from Columbia University.

Also in finance, David Alyea has been promoted to vice president, assistant corporate controller, reporting to Locke. A member of T&B's financial team since 1999, Alyea is well known for his technical accounting expertise and has played an important role in strengthening the company's internal controls and improving the timeliness of financial reporting.

Electrical Marketing Enhanced with New Leadership and Skills

Effective marketing programs are critical to growing sales and T&B's Electrical business has added several new leaders to its marketing team to help ensure that its sales team is well equipped.

Jeff Greene has joined T&B as vice president of marketing and will manage marketing communications, pricing, product management and engineering. Greene was most recently with the Leviton Manufacturing Company, a leading producer of switches, receptacles, wall plates, lighting controls, home automation, plugs and surge suppression devices.

Dennis Smith will support Greene in developing new product and marketing strategies in the new position of vice president, business development and planning. Smith spent 19 years with T&B before leaving the company in the mid-1990s to join Ilisco and the Roberts Nugent Company.



Jeff Greene, VP of marketing, Electrical.



Dennis Smith, VP, business development and planning, Electrical.



John Padbury, director, retail marketing, Electrical.

To strengthen T&B's retail marketing effort, John Padbury recently joined the electrical marketing team from the Hunter Fan Company, where he helped develop and implement marketing programs for the company's world-famous ceiling fans, accessories and other products.

Feeney Promoted to Lead Sales, Dean Leads Customer Service

Jim Feeney, a 17-year T&B veteran, was recently promoted to vice president of sales for the U.S. Electrical business. Feeney began his career with T&B in 1987 as a sales representative. Most recently, he led the sales effort for the eastern region of the U.S. In his new role, Feeney will work with T&B sales and manufacturing reps to provide customers with a unified approach to purchasing the company’s broad line of electrical connectors and components.

In conjunction with Feeney’s promotion, David Dean was named vice president of customer support and services for the Electrical business. Dean will direct the teams that interface directly with T&B’s customers and distributor partners as well as lead the development and execution of T&B’s industry-leading e-business strategy.



Jim Feeney
VP of sales, Electrical.



David Dean
VP of customer support and services, Electrical.



From left: Maureen Houghton, Terry Clawson, Brian Gerald and Marisol Brito.

T&B’s Albuquerque Plant Gets New Leadership

T&B’s Albuquerque, New Mexico, plant has seen big changes over the past couple of years, but none more significant than getting a whole new leadership team. Terry Clawson is the plant’s new manager. Clawson joined T&B from Federal-Mogul Corporation where he spent 25 years in a variety of leadership positions. Maureen Houghton, formerly the human resources manager at T&B’s Orange, Massachusetts, plant, joined the Albuquerque team early this year, while two returning T&B employees, Marisol Brito and Brian Gerald, will head up the Quality and Materials departments respectively. T&B’s Albuquerque plant manufactures high-voltage connectors used by utilities in routing electricity into homes, offices and other buildings. The plant employs nearly 500 people across three shifts.

Passion For Winning Puts T&B Products in New Generating Plant

The population of Arizona grew by 40 percent in the 1990s, making it the second fastest growing state in the U.S. and well outpacing the national growth rate of 13 percent.* To help supply the power to support this growth, Tucson Electric Power (TEP) is spending \$1 billion to expand its Springerville generating station in eastern Arizona.

Targeted for completion in 2007, the project is proceeding on schedule and T&B products are at the heart of the project, thanks to the hard work and commitment of Dean Chafin, T&B electrical sales representative, in Tucson. “We’ve spent months educating Bechtel, the general contractor for the project, on the merits of our products and our commitment to supporting their special needs,” said Chafin. “As a result, our cable tray, Sta-Kon® fittings, Star-Tek® connectors, Super strut, and T&B liquid tight fittings are specified for the project and orders are being delivered to the job site.”



T&B products will help complete the \$1 billion expansion of the Springerville, Arizona, generating station.

Bechtel is one of the world’s premier development, engineering and construction firms with an unrivaled reputation for excellence.

“Winning the confidence of Bechtel engineers is a significant accomplishment,” said Chafin. “Our goal is to grow the relationship and continue to support TEP and Bechtel over the course of this important project.”

Chafin noted that T&B has worked closely with the regional management team of Wesco to ensure that all the necessary products are in stock and available for delivery when required by Bechtel.

“This project is an excellent example of how partnering with our distributors ensures mutual success,” said Michael Coccaro, regional sales manager for T&B.

TEP serves more than 367,000 customers over a 1,155 square-mile service area.

* Source: AZ Dept of Economic Security; US Census Bureau



A Unisource Energy Company



Dean Chafin, Electrical sales representative.



T&B History For Sale

In shopping over the Internet, you can find just about anything from alphabet soup to zoo tickets. On eBay alone, you'll find over 150,000,000 items offered up for auction every day, including historical T&B products and related memorabilia.

T&B's HVAC division has had considerable success in scouting out collectible Reznor® heaters, including a washboard manufactured by Reznor in 1890 and an ornate gas-fired heater from 1925. These items are on display at the company's headquarters.

Other T&B products have also turned up for sale. Recently there was an auction for some antique T&B porcelain wire nuts. Old marketing brochures and magazine advertisements have also been found.



The Art of Silent Selling

With so many product choices, how do you grab the customer's attention? *TED Magazine*, the primary resource for North American electrical distributors refers to merchandising as "the art of silent selling." It provides a way to promote items - getting them off the shelves and into the hands of the customer. Judy Rawles, T&B's marketing specialist, shares the ten fundamentals of effective merchandising. Rawles also provides proven techniques for distributors to improve their merchandising strategy. Read the full article online at www.tedmag.com.



Judy Rawles, marketing specialist, Electrical.



She's Seen it All

"Electricity was the most important thing that happened to us," said Verona Johnston, the oldest documented American at age 114, in a recent issue of *Time* magazine.

Rob DeWeez, product manager, Electrical.



Cable Tie FYI - What You Need to Know

With a wide variety of cable ties available on the market, it must be difficult to determine which one to use. Rob DeWeez, product manager for T&B cable ties, known affectionately as the "Cable Tie Guy," uses his product savvy to simplify the process for readers of *TED Magazine*, the primary resource for North American electrical distributors. In the June 2004 issue, DeWeez points out that the teeth of an overtightened one-piece cable tie can dig into wire and cause an electrical short. Read the entire article online at www.tedmag.com.

NBA's Newest Arena is Home to T&B Products

Towering over historic Beale Street in downtown Memphis, the NBA's newest arena and one of its flashiest is ready for business. The \$250 million, 18,400-seat arena, named the FedExForum, was completed on time and on budget. Some credit for the success of this amazing project must be given to suppliers, sales personnel, and distributors - including Thomas & Betts - who worked with the general contractor over 18 months to keep the project on schedule. Behind the walls, under the floors and overhead, more than 80,000 fittings, 7,000 feet of cable tray, 2,500 tray clamps, 3,500 J-hooks, 50,000 boxes and covers, 23,700 other spring steel fasteners, 650 gallons of wire lube, and 12,000 feet of strut and miscellaneous fittings - all T&B products - can be found in the FedExForum.

"We're excited to be part of this history-making project," said Jim Feeney, vice president of sales for T&B's U.S. Electrical business. "Our sales agent, Greg Rhodes, did an excellent job getting our products specified with the contractors. Our quality and service helped us win an edge over the competition."



T&B products were sold to the arena through TAM and Allied Electric distributors. In addition to being the new home of the NBA Grizzlies and the University of Memphis Tigers, the arena will also host musical concerts, motorcycle races, circuses and other athletic events. The arena is also the permanent home of Smithsonian's Rock 'N' Soul museum, formerly housed at a nearby Gibson Guitar factory.

Not Your Typical Day at the Beach: T&B Sponsors Championship Solar Boat

The École Technologie Supérieur at the University of Quebec is generally known for turning out high-quality engineers. Now it's known for turning out championship solar boats, sponsored, in part, by T&B's Canadian business.

Using only solar energy for power, a team of 24 engineering students (the iSun Team) from the University designed and built Photon 3, a high-performance boat combining endurance with speed. Photon 3 competed at Solar Splash 2004 in Buffalo, New York, on June 16 - 20 where they finished in the top ten out of 25 universities and earned first place in endurance. Solar Splash is an international intercollegiate competition known as the "world championship" of solar/electric boating.

