

## Briefs

### Acquisitions ...

>> **NIBCO** has acquired the assets of Tolco, Inc., which manufactures pipe hangers, supports, seismic bracing, framing channels and fittings. Tolco is headquartered in Corona, CA, with additional locations in Sacramento and Houston. They serve the fire protection, commercial construction and industrial process markets.

>> **ITT Industries** has acquired the Pure Water Div. of Waterlink, Inc. Pure Water's Water Equipment Technologies unit designs and builds water purification systems spanning residential, commercial, industrial and municipal markets. Its C1Treat® product line offers offshore seawater desalination systems. Another Pure Water line, WETEC®, based in Clearwater, provides sales and service of deionization tanks throughout Florida. Combined revenues of the Pure Water Div. is about \$16 million.

>> **Dresser Inc.** has acquired Modern Supply of Ponca City, OK. Modern is a distributor of Dresser's Grove Valve and Tom Wheatley product lines, and brings to Dresser capabilities in custom valve packaging, actuation, fabrication and testing services.

### Expansion & Transition ...

>> **Sharon Tube** is adding a new ERW mill capable of producing large outside diameters and heavier walls. The \$9.5 million mill will be installed at Sharon's existing ERW facility in Niles, OH. It is expected to be operational by March 2003.

>> **Shore Industrial Supply Corp.**, Neptune, NJ, a PVF distributor, has been appointed the distributor of Lochinvar boilers and water heaters for all of southern New Jersey.

>> **SPX Valves & Controls** is a new division within the Flow Technology Group of SPX Corp. resulting from the merger of DeZurik/Copas-Vulcan, CMB Industries and Mueller Steam Specialties. <<

## Bonney Forge Acquires WFI

**B**onney Forge Corp. completed the acquisition of Houston's WFI International Inc. on June 4. The company is now known as WFI International — a division of Bonney Forge. Company CEO John Leone said they would retain the WFI label in the industry.

The acquisition expands Bonney's forged steel fittings offering with ferrous and non-ferrous branch connections, flanges, fittings and specialty forged components for piping systems and pressure vessels.

Founded more than 80 years ago, Bonney Forge produces forged steel fittings and unions, branch connections, forged steel valves and cast steel valves from a 200,000-sq.-ft. manufacturing facility in Mt. Union, PA.

## Charlotte Pipe Wins Trademark Infringement Cases

**C**harlotte Pipe and Foundry recently reached out-of-court settlements with two companies, B&W International of Brooklyn, and LEO International of Glendale, NY, for importing and selling cast iron soil pipe bearing Charlotte's Red End registered trademark. A third company, Max Supply of Flushing, NY, also settled out of court for im-

porting and intending to sell pipe marked with the Charlotte Red End trademark.

"Charlotte Pipe has and will continue to defend its valued Red End trademark and all other registered trademarks," said Roddey Dowd Jr., president of Charlotte Pipe and Foundry. "Charlotte Pipe remains committed to servicing and warranting its own products in the marketplace. However, Charlotte will not accept responsibility for the field failures of cast iron soil pipe bearing the Red End mark that was not manufactured by us. Any product liability associated with the failure of improperly marked goods is the sole responsibility of the party selling or purchasing the material."

As a condition of the settlement, all three companies have agreed not to sell, distribute or attempt to sell or distribute cast iron soil pipe that violates Charlotte's trademark rights. B&W and LEO also will notify customers who purchased the Red End pipe that the material was not manufactured by Charlotte.

Should customers believe they are using goods falsely bearing the Charlotte trademark, they are asked to please notify either the company or its attorney.

Charlotte Pipe and Foundry is at P.O. Box 35430, Charlotte, NC 28235. Charlotte's attorney is: James Pacious, Collier Shannon Scott, 3050 K St., N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20007-5108.

## U.S. Stainless Steel Piping Imports Annual and Year-To-Date From January – March 2002

	Stainless Seamless Tubular Products			
	YTD 2001 (In \$1,000)	YTD 2002 (In \$1,000)	% Change YTD	% Change 1997-2001
Landed Paid Value	49,564	38,424	-22.5%	18.9%
	Stainless Welded Tubular Products			
	YTD 2001 (In \$1,000)	YTD 2002 (In \$1,000)	% Change YTD	% Change 1997-2001
Landed Paid Value	31,804	31,533	-0.2%	86.2%
	Stainless Flanges, Fittings & Tool Joints			
	YTD 2001 (In \$1,000)	YTD 2002 (In \$1,000)	% Change YTD	% Change 1997-2001
Landed Paid Value	55,429	51,746	-6.6%	5.6%

Source: Compiled by the U.S. International Trade Commission from official statistics of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce.