



VibrAnalysis to host Caribbean forum

BY AUGUSTO DURAND

As part of its concerted effort to promote the island as the most viable gateway for exporting lean manufacturing practices and reliability testing services into Latin America, VibrAnalysis Inc. will host the Reliability World & Lean Manufacturing Caribbean Forum Sept. 28-29 at the Caribe Hilton Hotel. Last year, a similar event gathered more than 250 people from local pharmaceutical and power-generating operations such as J&J, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority and EcoEléctrica, as well as visiting participants from Venezuela, Panamá and México.

“Two years ago, we made the decision to develop the infrastructure that would allow us to offer our service platform to manufacturing operations outside Puerto Rico,” said Félix Laboy, president of the manufacturing reliability service provider.

In a world where change is the



VibrAnalysis team at a glance, from left: Leida de la Plaza; Flor de Lis Feliciano; President Félix Laboy; Ricardo Calo; Elvis Correa; Wilbert Jaca; Luis Bird; Sonia Núñez, and Francisco Vázquez.

only constant, VibrAnalysis has been a player in the evolution from the efficiency-oriented manufacturing paradigm of the '80s to the reliability-oriented mindset of the '90s and beyond. “Our bilingual culture can easily bridge the gap between global advances in technology, reliability and lean

manufacturing practices prevalent in the U.S., Europe and Asia, and those of our neighbors in the Caribbean and Latin America,” said Laboy.

Envisioning globalization as a key element to developing the vertical markets which thrive here, Laboy and his team are at the

forefront of the advanced practices and standards which characterize the global manufacturing competitive scenario. As a service provider, VibrAnalysis is engaged in consulting, training, personnel procurement and deployment, and equipment sales and repair functions. Originally available to Puerto Rico operations, these are now being exported to Latin America and other markets ripe for the implementation of global manufacturing trends.

For the past 15 years, VibrAnalysis has provided leading manufacturers with maintenance diagnostics, technical training and other services for customers in the pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors, petroleum and power generating operations and the food and beverage industry, among others. As part of its global strategy, the company now has active presence in Aruba, Trinidad, México, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and the USVI. ■

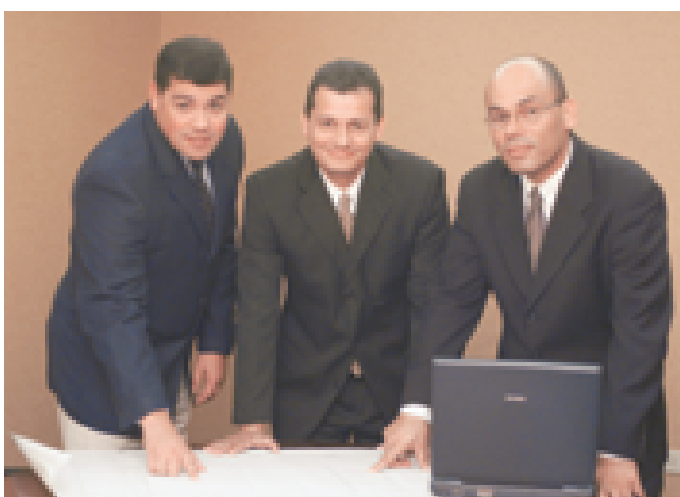
Mentor Tech to open new 25,000-square-foot building in Caguas

BY JONATHAN MAY

The Mentor Technical Group Corp. has announced it will be opening a new 25,000-square-foot building in Caguas in September. “This new building will consolidate our two old buildings in Caguas as well as help streamline our business operations and services,” said President Luis Soto. The new building will feature 10,000 square feet of office space, 5,000 square feet of workshop space and 10,000 square feet dedicated to the company’s pharmaceutical services.

Mentor is also working to keep up with the ever-changing pharmaceutical market that its clients face. “The industry is becoming more competitive, more globalized, and more regulated every day,” said Soto, “and I think these changes are good, especially in respect to globalization.”

Félix Bernard, vice president of operations, agreed, saying, “The industry is changing all the time



From left: Félix Bernard, vice president of operations; Julián Rodríguez, vice president of regulatory affairs and Luis Soto, president of the Mentor Technical Group.

especially in regards to the competition in Asia, Europe and the U.S. To combat these changes we are always coming up with new approaches to understand them and provide more effective services.”

Leading the charge in Mentor’s efforts to adapt to the changing industry are its consultants. “We employ a group of expert consultants who have diverse experiences in the pharmaceutical industry who create

solutions for our clients,” said Julián Rodríguez, vice president of regulatory affairs. “These consultants distinguish us from our competitors and give us one of the best customer retention rates in the industry,” said Rodríguez.

“Our consultants,” Bernard added, “will demonstrate to pharmaceutical companies how the integration of their services through Mentor is a cost-effective way to streamline

business operations.”

According to the three executives, Mentor’s consultants will customize an integration solution for its clients based on an in-depth study of the clients’ operations. “We promise to provide our clients with solutions that are an effective alternative to their current operations,” said Soto. “Our consultants provide only the highest quality of service with the experience that the pharmaceutical companies demand,” he added.

Mentor was incorporated in 2000 and currently employs more than 180 people. The company offers computerized maintenance management systems, regulatory compliance, safety consulting, utilities maintenance and operations outsourcing, validation, pump & seal repair and project management services. “All of our services help our clients prepare for the multitude of changes that are constantly dealt to the pharmaceutical industry,” said Bernard. ■