



MEDIA KIT

Contents

Press Release

Media Coverage & Recognitions

Company Overview

Leadership Bios



PRESS RELEASE

PRESS CONTACT

Bernice Mirrilees

630-785-6903

bmirrilees@redcaffeine.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bales Wins Daily Herald Business Ledger 2015 AABE Business Excellence Award

Downers Grove, Ill. (March 18, 2015) – Bales Metal Surface Solutions is proud to announce they have been selected to receive an Annual Award for Business Excellence in the family business category by the Daily Herald Business Ledger. Stacey Bales and Sara (Bales) Mortensen accepted the award on behalf of Bales at the AABE Award reception on March 11, in Addison, Ill.

The family business category specifically recognizes businesses that demonstrate sustained success across a broad range of measures — such as growth, innovation, entrepreneurship, and contributions to the community. This award showcases the region’s best-managed businesses and recognizes the achievements of their leaders. Award winners will be profiled in a special publication of The Daily Herald Business Ledger to be published on April 13, 2015.

The Bales success story includes how they have weathered the storm of family-business succession. Stacey and Sara were both just in their twenties when they came to be in charge of a male-dominated manufacturing business following their father’s sudden passing in 2009. Their abiding goal has been to carry on their father’s vision, dream, and passion for the business.

The AABE Award affirms they have done just that – by doubling sales, enhancing operational efficiency, adding equipment and work shifts, and receiving a Green Business Award from the Village of Downers Grove.

True to their commitment to innovation, Bales recently underwent a “brand refresh” – introducing their new name, tagline, logo, website and monthly e-newsletter – that provides a modern representation of the company, while also honoring its nearly 40-year history. Visit www.balesUSA.com to see and learn more.

Photo Attached.

Photo Caption: President Stacey Bales and Vice President Sara (Bales) Mortensen accept the AABE Award on behalf of Bales Metal Surface Solutions.

###

About Bales

Bales is a provider of metal surface solution for an array of industries. With locations in Downers Grove, Ill., and Harlingen, Texas, woman-owned Bales has been an industry leader since 1978 — delivering surface coatings, surface finishes, and value-added services that protect the life of molds, dies, tooling, and components. Learn more at www.balesUSA.com.

MEDIA COVERAGE & RECOGNITIONS

Mold Making Technology

Expanding Aluminum's Potential

Hard-coating provides a number of benefits that make aluminum tooling an attractive alternative to steel.

Harry Raimondi and Bob Lammon, May 1, 2015

Aluminum tooling has a variety of natural characteristics that can benefit the injection molding process. For example, aluminum's faster cutting and overall manufacturing times allow for greater throughput efficiencies, its high thermal conductivity enables it to be processed more easily, and it is very strong, to name a few of its advantages. While these characteristics help to yield faster cycle times and reduced waste, hard-coating an aluminum mold with nickel boron or electroless nickel can further improve its durability and its ability to produce plastic parts with Class A surface finishes when high volumes are [required](#).

[Read the article >](#)

Plastics Today

Bales Wins AABE Business Excellence Award

Clare Goldsberry, March 20, 2015

Bales Metal Surface Solutions (Downers Grove, Ill.) announced that it has received an Annual Award for Business Excellence (AABE) in the family business category from the Daily Herald Business Ledger. Stacey Bales and Sara (Bales) Mortensen accepted the award on behalf of Bales at the AABE reception on March 11 in Addison, Ill.

[Read the article >](#)

Daily Herald Business Ledger

Suburban Companies Honored for Business Excellence

Richard Klicki, March 12, 2015

Twenty-three suburban-based companies and business organizations were honored for their achievements during the Daily Herald Business Ledger's 25th Annual Awards for Business Excellence.

Bales President Stacey Bales is quoted regarding the importance of having employees engaged in the business' mission.

"Transparency is key," Bales said. "If you want to see other generations and other team members stand out, give them the wings to fly and they will succeed."

[Read the article >](#)



MEDIA COVERAGE & RECOGNITIONS ... *continued*

TMA Technology Manufacturing Aligned

Stacey Bales Added to Women in Technology & Manufacturing Association Committee

January 2015

The Women in Technology & Manufacturing Association Committee plans and implements programs for women TMA members, and promotes the interest of women in member companies and in the industry as a whole.

[Click here for more information >](#)

“Making Chips” Podcast

Presidency by Death in the Family

January 2015

“Making Chips” is a podcast that explores key topics in metalworking and manufacturing. Hosts Jim Carr and Jason Zenger interviewed Stacey Bales about taking over as Bales President following her father’s sudden passing.

[Listen to the podcast >](#)

Green Business Award from the Village of Downers Grove, Ill.

February 2013

The Village of Downers Grove launched the Green Business Recognition program to officially recognize local businesses that have made substantial efforts to become environmentally sustainable by adopting best practices in the following areas:

- Waste Reduction & Recycling
- Water Conservation and Stormwater Pollution Prevention
- Energy Conservation
- Transportation
- Public Education/Awareness
- Innovation

[Click here for more information >](#)

COMPANY OVERVIEW

WHO WE ARE

Since 1978, we've been protecting your metal surfaces in ways others don't dare. We're as tough as we are precise. Incomparable finishes, tight tolerances, plus a proud legacy of integrity and innovation. Think solid with a side of rebel. It's what makes us, and you, shine.



WHAT WE DO

Bales fuses science and craftsmanship in everything we do. We work with you to determine the best surface treatment to prevent or tackle everything from friction and release issues to wear, corrosion and more. No matter the industry.

At the same time, we have a reputation for innovation. We're constantly expanding our capabilities and array of proprietary products and processes:



SURFACE COATINGS

NIBORE™
NICKLON™
Electroless Nickel
Sulfamate Nickel
Diamond Chrome
Hard Chrome



SURFACE FINISHES

Diamond Polishing
Glass Bead Blasting
Aluminum Oxide Blasting
Liquid Honing



VALUE-ADDED SERVICES

Micro TIG Welding
SS Passivation
Masking
Stripping
Barrel and Rack Plating
X-ray Certification
MIL Spec Certification
Pick-up and Delivery
24/7 Availability





LEADERSHIP BIOS

STACEY BALES – President

630.852.4665 | stacey@balesUSA.com

Stacey Bales and her sister Sara were both just in their twenties when they came to be in charge of a male-dominated manufacturing business following their father's sudden passing in 2009. Their abiding goal since has been to carry on his vision, dream and passion for the company.

As President of Bales since January 2010, Stacey drives long-term strategic vision, is responsible for financial management and legal matters, and is the company spokesperson.

Stacey serves on the board of directors for the Technology and Manufacturing Association (TMA), the National Association of Surface Finishers - Chicago Branch (NASF) and the Chicago AESF Foundation. She is also a member of the TMA's Women in TMA Committee and Young Leaders Committee.

Stacey can be a source for stories on:

- American manufacturing renaissance
- Women in manufacturing
- Woman-owned businesses
- Family businesses
- Business succession
- "Green" manufacturing processes
- The surface finishing industry

SARA MORTENSEN - Vice President

Sara literally grew up with the family business and says that by his example, her father — company co-founder Steven Bales — taught her how important it is to listen to others. Sara works on the sales side, helping customers tackle their challenges, as well as leading the company's marketing vision.

DEAN TUFANO - Technical Services Manager

Dean is one of three managers at Bales with the distinction of "Certified Electroplater-Finisher." He came to Bales in 2009 after 22 years as a plant manager for a large polishing and plating company. Today he shares his experience at industry events, and he gets great satisfaction from helping customers determine which coating or finish would best suit their needs.

HARRY RAIMONDI - Technical Services Manager

Harry has worked at Bales since 1996. Previously, he had been a moldmaker for 29 years. That behind-the-bench experience is invaluable as he helps customers tackle their toughest surface and finishing issues. Harry is a frequent presenter at industry events, having spoken at events for MMT, TMA, SPE, SPI, Amerimold and AMBA.