



## Moving on! Who's next?

It's been a fascinating experience these past 15 years – working with my glass industry colleagues starting in 1995 to envision, create and then, three years later, be asked to lead a glass industry trade association that, for the first time, brings together the interests of glassmakers from all glass sectors (flat, container, fiber and specialty).

When we launched the Glass Manufacturing Industry Council in September 1998 with seven glass companies, who could have imagined that in 12 years we'd have 60+ members consisting of some of the world's largest glass companies, suppliers, research institutes, universities, consultants and individuals – all committed to improving the industry and contributing to society and the environment?

But, now I find it's time to move on! I will be retiring from GMIC at the end of 2010, as will my good friend and colleague, John Brown, our technical director. As an organization, GMIC is actively seeking replacements for John and me, so I thought I'd put a "plug" in at this time for the position I've enjoyed developing these past dozen years. If you'd like to consider taking over for me when I leave, the instructions for initiating that process conclude this column!

### Finding mutual solutions

Why would you want to step in? Here are a few of the reasons.

The GMIC is well established as a "convener" for our industry. We are involved in coordinating research initiatives targeted at improving the industry's internal operations and technologies as well as our value to society and the environment. Our members in various glass sectors are comfortable

speaking about their challenges and successes with their colleagues from noncompetitive glass types – frequently finding mutual solutions to common problems. Our board and member meetings and workshops are well attended and often lead to spirited and thoughtful discussions. For example, we regularly average about 100 participants at our Energy Efficiency workshops that follow a very intense three-day Glass Problems annual conference!

The Submerged Combustion Melter – the likely next "standard" for melting glass – was developed by an unprecedented coalition of glass companies – all competitors. With the cost-shared funding from the DOE and under the umbrella of the GMIC, they were able to work together with the Gas Technology Institute to successfully develop, test and now implement this game-changing technology. More opportunities are in the works – such as uniting to address the age-old mystery of why glass loses its inherent strength during and after forming. Answer that question and the sky is the limit for glass!

We have well-established links with regulators and legislators in Washington, D.C., through ups and downs, working with the EPA and the Departments of Energy and Commerce to obtain support for our industry.

We've also been building international communications with the International Commission on Glass and various national glass associations working toward the development of a global collaboration that, while retaining its competitive vigor, recognizes and capitalizes on opportunities to make glass an even more important part of society.

What about location? (Location! Location!) As global citizens – I've lived in 10 countries – my wife and I have found Columbus, Ohio, to be a

great place to live. No caveats. It's an amazing city!

Plus, we are literally in the middle of the glass industry: Six or seven glass-company members are within a three-hour drive and every state adjoining Ohio has glass industry presence. Even our nation's capital is a quick (and economical) hour flight away.

Our business location in the ACerS offices works very well administratively – so we have the services of a larger organization with a minimum of staff!

### Training provided

I've still got a few months to go, but I wanted to put this word out now so that the work that all of our members have accomplished over these past years will not lose momentum, but keep right on going to continue to improve our industry, society and the environment – perhaps with your help!

Our capable executive assistant, Donna Ransom, is ready to train you as soon as you come on board. She's a creative, outgoing and hard-working colleague who will help you to hit the ground running and take the GMIC to greater challenges and accomplishments.

Interested? Please submit your resume by April 30, 2010, to [careers@gmic.org](mailto:careers@gmic.org), or by mail to: GMIC Executive Director Search, 600 N. Cleveland Ave., Suite 210, Westerville, Ohio 43082, USA.

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