FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net sales</td>
<td>$913,714</td>
<td>$990,252</td>
<td>$1,134,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income</td>
<td>$63,918</td>
<td>$67,588</td>
<td>$70,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic earnings per common share</td>
<td>$1.76</td>
<td>$1.89</td>
<td>$1.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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AT YEAR END (thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>$898,620</td>
<td>$1,016,306</td>
<td>$875,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working capital</td>
<td>$289,424</td>
<td>$287,861</td>
<td>$258,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common shareholders’ equity</td>
<td>$436,926</td>
<td>$460,604</td>
<td>$392,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common shares outstanding</td>
<td>36,015</td>
<td>35,662</td>
<td>35,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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ANNUAL SALES BY PRODUCT GROUP

- Head Protection (Helmet, Eye, Face & Hearing): 28%
- Air-Supplied Respirators: 12%
- Gas Detection Instruments: 13%
- Air-Purifying Respirators: 21%
- Fall Protection and Other: 20%

ANNUAL SALES BY REGION

- North America: 62%
- Europe: 10%
- Asia & Pacific Rim: 5%
- Africa: 5%
- South America: 7%
- Other: 10%

ABOUT THE COVER

Every Life Has a Purpose... and at MSA we’re committed to ensuring that people all over the world, no matter where they live, work or play, have the opportunity to fulfill that purpose. Whether it’s parenting a child, coaching a team, restoring peace, caring for the sick or teaching a new generation, MSA remains dedicated to protecting the health and safety of people in the workplace, so they can fulfill their mission and serve their families and communities in which they live.

As MSA celebrates its 95th year in business, we remain committed to ensuring people live in health throughout the world. We’ll be there to monitor and filter the air they breathe, protect them from falls and objects falling from above; keep them safe from projectiles on the frontlines of war or the streets of our communities; and safeguard consumers while tackling projects around the home.

Shown on the cover are people at work and play from across the globe. While their purposes in life are different, our mission to protect them remains unchanged. Some of their stories are featured on the pages that follow.

BUSINESS OF MSA

MSA is in the business of developing, manufacturing and selling innovative and sophisticated products that enhance the safety and health of workers throughout the world. Critical to MSA’s mission is a clear understanding of customer processes and safety needs. MSA dedicates significant resources to research which allows the company to develop a keen understanding of the customer safety requirements for a diverse range of markets, including the fire service, law enforcement, construction, public utilities, mining, chemical, petroleum, HVAC, hazardous materials remediation, military and retail. MSA’s principal products, each designed to serve the needs of these target markets, include respiratory protective equipment, thermal imaging cameras, gas detection instruments, ballistic protection, as well as head, eye, face, hearing and fall protection products.

MSA was founded in 1914 by John T. Ryan and George H. Deike, two mining engineers who had firsthand knowledge of the terrible human loss that was occurring in underground coal mines. Their knowledge of the mining industry provided the foundation for the development of safety equipment to better protect underground miners. While the range of markets served by MSA has expanded greatly over the years, the founding philosophy of understanding customer safety needs and designing innovative safety equipment solutions remains unchanged.

MSA is headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with operations employing 5,100 associates throughout the world. A publicly held company, MSA’s stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MSA.

OUR MISSION

That men and women may work in safety and that they, their families and their communities may live in health throughout the world.

OUR VISION

To be the leading innovator and provider of quality safety and instrument products and services that protect and improve people’s health, safety and the environment.

To satisfy customer needs through the efforts of motivated, involved, highly trained employees dedicated to continuous improvement in quality, service, cost, value, technology and delivery.

MSA ANNUAL REPORT 2008
Overall, combined handheld and permanently installed gas detection instrument sales increased nearly $1 million for MSA in 2008, as the OGP market continued to grow throughout the year.

MSA launched many other innovative new products for customers in our key markets. We introduced the next generation Air Advantage, an advanced ballistic helmet for the Canadian military. We unveiled a new stand-alone personnel alert system, thermography camera, and helmet camera that are being offered to the U.S. Air Force. Air Force for our Firefighting® M50 Air Mask. A remarkable result of this focus is the introduction of a new generation of our Altair® gas detector product line, the Altair® 5 Multigas Detector. We introduced the new product with expanded capabilities and features.

As a measure of our R&D effectiveness, roughly one third of MSA’s global sales in 2008 were from products introduced over the last three years. I invite you to learn more about our product innovation strategy on pages 4 and 5 of this annual report.

One of the keys to driving such growth, today and in the future, is our heightened focus on building Customer Loyalty. A key metric MSA adopted in 2008 to assess our effectiveness in this area is the Net Promoter Score (NPS). This year, more than ever before, MSA understands that our customers are working around the world to build a strong foundation for the future of our company. I am proud to report that MSA was recognized as a leader in providing mine safety products to continue the longstanding mission that first put MSA on the map in 1914.

In North America, our largest market, sales increased in 2008 as MSA benefited from three major factors: consistently strong orders for our new Line of Sight Advanced Combat Helmets; our advanced riot-control products and continued strong orders for our new Altair® 6 Multigas Detector, a sister product with expanded capabilities and features; and continued, combined handheld and permanently installed gas detection instrument sales increased nearly $1 million for MSA in 2008, as the OGP market continued to grow throughout the year.

MSA was named a leader in providing new safety products to compete on the IHS Long Range Gaps Survey, which tracks the market for the second largest market, after North America. Our teams in Italy and Germany particularly have seen the dedication, talent and ingenuity that make MSA a safety product leader around the world.

In 2008, MSA continued to strengthen its brand position as the global leader in safety equipment while delivering record sales that exceeded $1 billion for the first time in the company’s history.

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Reflecting our balanced and diversified global portfolio of businesses, MSA’s sales growth in 2008 was driven by strong sales growth in all four of our geographic business segments – North America, Europe, Latin America, and International. In achieving this record revenue, we were guided, as always, by the enduring principle that has defined our mission for 90 years. MSA protects the health and safety of working people everywhere, from firefighters, soldiers and police and other public safety officers, to construction workers, mining, factory and oil and gas workers. We believe that our purpose and that of our clients is to provide high quality products that effectively protect those who are expected to return, safe and sound, to their families, loved ones and friends at the end of each day.

The continued implementation of Project Magellan, a multi-year initiative to supply additional advanced Combat Helmets to the U.S. military and the Firefighting® M50 Responders’ Air Mask, in the U.S. Air Force, Air Force for our Firefighting® M50 Air Mask, a remarkable result of this focus is the introduction of a new generation of our Altair® gas detector product line, the Altair® 5 Multigas Detector. We introduced the new product with expanded capabilities and features.

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With hundreds of patents and thousands of products, MSA remains committed to protecting the health and safety of people in all kinds of settings, who face all kinds of hazards. Our focus on advanced technology and innovation helped us achieve record sales in 2008 as MSA, for the first time in our 95 year history, exceeded $1 Billion in annual revenue. In fact, more than one-third of MSA's global sales in 2008 were from products introduced within the last three years, demonstrating great success in our focus on developing innovative, value-based, customer-decided products.

**PRODUCT INNOVATION: THE LEADING EDGE OF SAFETY**

In 2008, MSA continued its tradition of safety innovation with the introduction of several new products that enhance performance, reliability and ultimately worker protection. In short, MSA met the ever-changing needs of our customers by delivering products that do what we better than anyone in our industry — developing increasingly sophisticated safety technology at a high rate of depreciation, cost-effectively and on time.

Racked by our dedication to listening to the voice of the customer, world-class capabilities in R&D, our advanced manufacturing processes and our deep and long-term expertise, MSA launched a number of new products that meet stringent certification standards and the expectations of the men and women who depend on MSA to protect them on the job every day.

Major new products launched in 2008 included:

- **The Altair® 5 Multi-Gas Detector** — The next-generation portable gas-detection instruments are more rugged and durable than competitive devices, with enhanced safety features and advanced technology. The pocket-size, four-gas Altair 5 Detector provides an ideal safety solution for workers in the oil, gas, petrochemical, process, food and beverage, and power markets. Easy to wear and use, MSA offers several versions of these next-generation devices, catering from one that is made for the oil industry that incorporates H2S advanced threat detection, and instantaneous technology. MotionAlert automatically alerts others if the user becomes disabled due to an environmental hazard or is otherwise unable to operate a machine or device. Designed to meet the unique needs of United States Air Force firefighters who face a unique set of challenges and dangers, the OptimAir TL PAPR provides a greater level of eye protection from dust, dirt and grit. Innovative and low-profile in design, it is the first of its kind in North America. Designed to integrate with one and traditional versions of MSA Cairns® fire helmets.

- **The Advantage® 200 Respirator** — A next-generation stand-alone device, the motionSCOUT PASS sounds an alarm when a firefighter is down or becomes disabled. While many PASS systems today are integrated into the electronics of a SCBA, MSA designed this new product as a highly reliable, lower-cost alternative for the global market. The motionSCOUT PASS provides increased durability in extreme environments and greater ease of use with a significant cost reduction, as well as a solid state motion sensor for improved reliability. In 2008, the product was well received by customers, with nearly 10,000 units sold.

- **The Alpha® Personal Network** — A new electronic personal monitoring and alarm system, the Alpha® Personal Network was designed for the European fire service to improve fire ground management. Displaying many innovative features, the Alpha® Personal Network consists of the Alpha/Cx device, a wireless Ignite Communicator Unit on every firefighter and the central management console, the Alpha/MCS, which provides cylinder pressure status and battery life information within a firefighter’s field of view, the Alpha/BAC, a manner for ground management, the Alpha/MCS, enabling firefighters to identify themselves and transmit data back to incident command, and the Alpha/CRM, MSA’s unique monitoring software providing complete incident data that is automatically logged and analyzed.

During the year, MSA also strengthened its air-purifying respirator offerings, with the successful roll-out of the OptimAir® TL Powered Air-Purifying Respirator (PAPR). Integrating engineering expertise and technology from Europe and North America, MSA created the OptimAir TL PAPR to be the most advanced product of its kind. Designed primarily for the North American market, this breakthrough respirator stands as the pinnacle in PAPR performance. The OptimAir TL PAPR enables safety by providing an automatically activated sound switch that sets off a visual and auditory alarm. The system is designed for emergency use only and does not replace emergency evacuation procedures. In 2008, MSA issued her a free Advantage® 200 Respirator. So she called MSA Customer Service. Realizing a replacement was long overdue, MSA issued her a free Advantage® 200 Respirator.

**EVERY LIFE HAS A PURPOSE**

**ROSE CONLEY**

Homeowner, Gardener, Grandmother

Painesville, Ohio

“I’m not your sit-in-the-rocking-chair type person,” said Rose Conley, who turned 82 at the beginning of 2009.

As soon as the weather turns warm she’ll fire up the lawnmower and cut her grass — but not before donning a brand new MSA half-mask respirator. As soon as the weather turns warm she’ll fire up the lawnmower and cut her grass — but not before donning a brand new MSA half-mask respirator. As soon as the weather turns warm she’ll fire up the lawnmower and cut her grass — but not before donning a brand new MSA half-mask respirator. As soon as the weather turns warm she’ll fire up the lawnmower and cut her grass — but not before donning a brand new MSA half-mask respirator. As soon as the weather turns warm she’ll fire up the lawnmower and cut her grass — but not before donning a brand new MSA half-mask respirator. As soon as the weather turns warm she’ll fire up the lawnmower and cut her grass — but not before donning a brand new MSA half-mask respirator. 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ENHANCING PERFORMANCE THROUGH OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

AT MSA, WE CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO BECOME A TRULY BEST-IN-CLASS GLOBAL ORGANIZATION WITH THE BEST PEOPLE, BEST PRODUCTS, BEST PROCESSES, BEST TECHNOLOGY AND BEST SAFETY PRACTICES IN OUR INDUSTRY.

In 2008, MSA took several steps to enhance our operational performance and optimize our processes to deliver even better products to our customers throughout the world. One of MSA’s most important initiatives during the year was the first phase of our wall-to-wall conversion to Demand Flow Technology throughout our global Operational Excellence organization.

Demand Flow Technology (DFT) is a business process that makes manufacturing operations more flexible, responsive and predictable. DFT and its systematic, quantitative methodology helps provide more accurate demand management, more efficient asset and inventory management, and more reliable customer satisfaction. DFT also enables our factories and warehouses to respond faster to the needs of our customers while reducing inventories.

The conversion to DFT at some of our international manufacturing facilities in Australia, Brazil, China and South Africa is already yielding promising encouraging results, including product cost reductions, lower cycle times, improved customer delivery, increased productivity, and improved inventory turns. To date, MSA has trained more than 400 global associates in DFT and will continue the global conversion throughout 2009 focusing on North America and Europe.

MSA also launched other initiatives during the year to achieve operational excellence, including establishing a process to consistently measure all of our global facilities on select key performance indicators. This process now enables MSA to benchmark and compare each of our facilities and identify specific areas where we need to improve to achieve our goals of operational excellence.

In addition, MSA began using comparable global costing processes in North America, Europe and China, as well as global processes to enhance the utilization of our manufacturing assets in ways that increase our returns on those assets. We also implemented best practices for global sourcing, front-end logistics and inventory management.

Overall, MSA remains focused on achieving higher performance levels in our business for our customers, to give the company a sustainable competitive advantage that we believe will strengthen customer satisfaction and, ultimately, customer loyalty.

A key element in our ongoing drive to achieve operational excellence is Project Magellan. A multi-year endeavor that was announced in January 2007, Project Magellan is aligning MSA’s resources and manufacturing footprint to reduce costs and efficiently meet the needs of customers in key markets and regions with growth potential, like China and Mexico.

As an example, MSA opened a state-of-the-art manufacturing, warehouse and R&D center in Suzhou, China at the end of 2008 — our second manufacturing facility in that growing market. As a new hub for our business activity in China, the 172,000 square-foot Suzhou facility marks MSA largest overseas investment in recent years and serves as one of the largest producers of safety equipment in China. Accordingly, the new facility in Suzhou will manufacture self-contained breathing apparatus, portable and permanent instruments, fall protection equipment, and other safety products for the global safety market. In addition, MSA also made investments to improve and modernize our manufacturing facilities in Sydney, Australia, and São Paulo, Brazil, in 2008.

During a multi-year effort in Mexico, MSA continued to strengthen our operational excellence capabilities by opening a new 77,000 square-foot facility in Querétaro at the end of 2007. As one of the company’s premier manufacturing sites, this facility in Mexico is producing head protection products, fall protection equipment and instrumentation, especially for North American customers in the Construction and Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals market.

THE WIN-WIN BENEFITS OF DEMAND FLOW TECHNOLOGY

As one of our first operations to convert to Demand Flow Technology (DFT), MSA do Brasil has achieved dramatic improvements at its facility in São Paulo. Using DFT and its systematic, quantitative methodology, MSA do Brasil has achieved outstanding Demand Flow Technology (DFT) results by improving manufacturing efficiency, inventory management and order fulfillment and has paved the way for similar success in the future of MSA do Brasil.

DAVID KAZMIERCZAK

Firefighter, Husband, Father
Buffalo, New York

Firefighter David Kazmierczak and Rescue 1 in Buffalo, New York, routinely respond to various life-threatening situations, including structure fires, hazardous material spills, and automobile accidents, among others.

On the morning of Thursday, November 29, 2007, our driver hit the brakes to avoid a collision. "It was like I got hit by a car while traveling in reverse. "

The sudden deceleration threw Kazmierczak forward. His head hit first, crashing into the corner of the desk, bending and cracking the side brim of his Cairns® N5A Helmet. Then his body slammed into the steel plated wall.

"We were traveling about 35–40 miles per hour," he recalled. "Basically it was like I got hit by a car while traveling in reverse."

The emergency room physician told him that if he didn’t have that helmet on, his injuries would have been fatal.

MSA’s Cairns N5A Helmet saved firefighter Kazmierczak so he could go home to his wife and 14-year-old son, and continue protecting the citizens of Buffalo.

THE WIN-WIN BENEFITS OF DEMAND FLOW TECHNOLOGY

New Methodology Drives Improvements at MSA do Brasil

DAVID KAZMIERCZAK

DFT at work in bulk
This new facility in Mexico, which had more than 160 employees at the end of 2008, consolidates previous MSA operations in Torreón and Mexico City, and enables MSA to more effectively support and serve our customer and distributor base in Mexico, where MSA has experienced dynamic sales growth over the past five years.

Under Project Magellan, MSA also continued to relocate and consolidate certain manufacturing activities to part of our long-term strategy to reduce costs, improve operating margins, enhance our competitiveness in key product areas, and strengthen customer relationships by providing the best value in sophisticated safety products.

This strategic manufacturing reconfiguration included shifting most of the production of gas masks and other respiratory protection products at our facility in Evans City, Pennsylvania to other MSA facilities in the United States. MSA also shifted the helmet production from the company’s facility in Clifton, New Jersey to our new facility in Jackson, North Carolina, resulting in the closure of the Clifton site in late 2007.

In all, MSA operated 8 manufacturing facilities in North America in 2008 that employed approximately 1,500 associates at year end. In the rest of the world, MSA operated 9 additional manufacturing sites employing approximately 2,100 people.

MSA's focus on boosting efficiency and reducing costs while improving deliveries and customer satisfaction included streamlining our North American staff by approximately 9% in early 2009 by instituting a hiring freeze, and by offering a voluntary retirement incentive program. In light of the continuing global economic slowdown, this was a necessary step for MSA. Our goal is to take all competitive and responsive as possible while meeting our customers’ expectations for quality, product performance and value.

At MSA, improvement is truly a continuing process, regardless of economic cycles. Our people are dedicated to this improvement, as well as achieving operational excellence and striving to do the best for our customers around the globe.

Every Life Has a Purpose

By day Mary Clare Shiber is a scientist. By night she rides the streets of Wayne, New Jersey responding to distress calls as a volunteer EMT-B. One night, she nearly sent one herself.

As a volunteer EMT-B she responded to a cardiac call; an elderly woman unconscious in her bed. Shiber and her partner administered oxygen and moved the patient to the floor to begin CPR. It was then that Shiber began to feel the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Her partner, sensing something was wrong, ordered them to evacuate. They picked up the patient and raced to the hospital, administering CPR along the way. In the back of their minds was an important lesson.

“You never know what you’re walking into,” explained Dr. Shiber. “If we’d had CO detectors, we’d have just grabbed the patient and transported her.”

After that call the squad equipped all “jump kits” with Altair® Pro Single-Gas CO Detectors.

The new Altair Pro CO Detectors are helping to ensure that Clare and her team know exactly what they’re walking into when responding to a call, allowing her to come home and care for what gives her one of her greatest joys in life – her dog Lucinda.
DRIVING GLOBAL GROWTH IN KEY MARKETS

AS THE SAFETY COMPANY FOR PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD, MSA IN 2008 CONTINUED TO DRIVE GROWTH IN THE KEY MARKETS THAT ARE AT THE CORE OF OUR MISSION.

Since MSA’s founding in 1914, the company has been dedicated to protecting workers with the best safety equipment that meets their unique and specific needs and requirements. Over the years, MSA has expanded and strengthened our business, our “best-in-class” and “first-to-market” product lines, and our manufacturing capabilities to become a truly global safety company. Today, MSA is focused on serving key worldwide markets, including: Fire Service, Oil, Gas and Petrochemical, Law Enforcement, Military and Construction. MSA also services the safety needs of workers in the Utilities, Manufacturing, HVAC and Hazardous Materials Remediation markets. In geographic markets outside of North America, such as South Africa and China, MSA also continues to serve the mining industry, the market that was the first to benefit from our protective equipment when the company was founded 95 years ago.

In 2008, MSA reported record global sales of $1.1 billion, with sales outside North America reaching 48%, as the company continued to target geographic markets around the world with growth potential.

Despite the challenging global economic downturn, MSA continued to grow sales in markets such as the Utilities, Manufacturing, Sales and Service markets. One of the most impressive performances in North America was in Mexico, where MSA has achieved a cumulative annual growth rate of 22% over the past five years.

Driving our global growth were several major new contracts and orders in our key markets. In 2008, these included:

- **Military**
  - The U.S. Army – $29 million in new contracts to supply Advanced Combat Helmets (ACH). MSA has been manufacturing this advanced helmet since 2002, when the company first partnered with the U.S. Army on its development. The ACH incorporates a lightweight design that offers soldiers advanced ballistic protection with greater comfort, stability and situational awareness. Since its adoption by the Army as the standard of issue, this helmet has been credited with saving the lives of many U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.
  - Canadian National Defense Forces – Nearly $7 million in orders for our CG634 ballistic helmets.
  - U.S. Air Force – $24.6 million in contracts to supply the Firehawk® M7 Responder® Air Mask to air base fire brigades. This newly developed SCBA provides a three-way, long-duration respiratory protection solution that exceeds the latest National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) performance standards with approved protection from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) contaminants.
  - German Federal Defense Forces – $19.2 million ($15 million) in orders to supply self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), MSA 10000 gas masks and other safety products.
  - Vietnamese Air Force – A $1.3 million ($1 million) order for F1® Fire Helmets.
  - Hong Kong Fire Brigade – A $4.5 million SCBA order.

- **Law Enforcement**
  - Canadian Corrections Department – A $4.4 million contract for our Firehawk® M7 Air Masks.

In 2008, MSA received a $4.4 million order for soft containment breathing apparatus (SCBA) from the Hong Kong Fire Brigade.

In North America, our largest geographic market, sales increased 16%, reflecting in part the strong performance of our manufacturing, sales and product development teams. One of the most impressive performances in North America was in Mexico, where MSA has achieved a cumulative annual growth rate of 22% over the past five years.

Driving our global growth were several major new contracts and orders in our key markets. In 2008, these included:

- **Fire Service**
  - Vienna (Austria) Fire Brigade – A $1.3 million ($1 million) order for F1® Fire Helmets.
  - Hong Kong Fire Brigade – A $4.5 million SCBA order.

In 2008, MSA continued its long-term purchase and usage agreements with the Ministry of Interior and Police in Paris, France.

- **Oil, Gas and Petrochemical**
  - PEMEX – A $6 million contract for flame and gas detection monitors and systems, the company’s first project in Mexico’s state-owned petroleum company.
  - PEMEX – $165 million in contracts to supply flame and gas detection monitoring systems to Mexico’s state-owned petroleum company.

Illustrating the growth potential for MSA’s head protection products, the company received a 3-year order for 40,000 G3 Gendarmerie riot helmets, and a $6 million ($4.7 million) order for 2,000 ballistic vests, reflecting superb teamwork between our U.S.-based Paraclete body armor business and our customerFocus in France.

In 2008, MSA received a $4.4 million order for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) from the Hong Kong Fire Brigade.

In North America, our largest geographic market, sales increased 16%, reflecting in part the strong performance of our manufacturing, sales and product development teams. One of the most impressive performances in North America was in Mexico, where MSA has achieved a cumulative annual growth rate of 22% over the past five years.

Driving our global growth were several major new contracts and orders in our key markets. In 2008, these included:

- **Military**
  - The U.S. Army – $29 million in new contracts to supply Advanced Combat Helmets (ACH). MSA has been manufacturing this advanced helmet since 2002, when the company first partnered with the U.S. Army on its development. The ACH incorporates a lightweight design that offers soldiers advanced ballistic protection with greater comfort, stability and situational awareness. Since its adoption by the Army as the standard of issue, this helmet has been credited with saving the lives of many U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.
  - Canadian National Defense Forces – Nearly $7 million in orders for our CG634 ballistic helmets.
  - U.S. Air Force – $24.6 million in contracts to supply the Firehawk® M7 Responder® Air Mask to air base fire brigades. This newly developed SCBA provides a three-way, long-duration respiratory protection solution that exceeds the latest National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) performance standards with approved protection from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) contaminants.
  - German Federal Defense Forces – $19.2 million ($15 million) in orders to supply self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), MSA 10000 gas masks and other safety products.
  - Vietnamese Air Force – A $1.3 million ($1 million) order for F1® Fire Helmets.
  - Hong Kong Fire Brigade – A $4.5 million SCBA order.

In 2008, MSA continued its long-term purchase and usage agreements with the Ministry of Interior and Police in Paris, France.

- **Law Enforcement**
  - Canadian Corrections Department – A $4.4 million contract for our Firehawk® M7 Air Masks.

In 2008, MSA received a $4.4 million order for soft containment breathing apparatus (SCBA) from the Hong Kong Fire Brigade.

In North America, our largest geographic market, sales increased 16%, reflecting in part the strong performance of our manufacturing, sales and product development teams. One of the most impressive performances in North America was in Mexico, where MSA has achieved a cumulative annual growth rate of 22% over the past five years.

Driving our global growth were several major new contracts and orders in our key markets. In 2008, these included:

- **Fire Service**
  - Vienna (Austria) Fire Brigade – A $1.3 million ($1 million) order for F1® Fire Helmets.
  - Hong Kong Fire Brigade – A $4.5 million SCBA order.

In 2008, MSA continued its long-term purchase and usage agreements with the Ministry of Interior and Police in Paris, France.

- **Oil, Gas and Petrochemical**
  - PEMEX – A $6 million contract for flame and gas detection monitors and systems, the company’s first project in Mexico’s state-owned petroleum company.
  - PEMEX – $165 million in contracts to supply flame and gas detection monitoring systems to Mexico’s state-owned petroleum company.

Illustrating the growth potential for MSA’s head protection products, the company received a 3-year order for 40,000 G3 Gendarmerie riot helmets, and a $6 million ($4.7 million) order for 2,000 ballistic vests, reflecting superb teamwork between our U.S.-based Paraclete body armor business and our customerFocus in France.
Every Life Has a Purpose
PRINCIPAL OPERATIONS

North America

Corporate Headquarters – Pittsburgh, Pa.
U.S. Manufacturing – Bowling Green, Ky.
Cranberry Twp., Pa.; Englewood, Co; Evans City, Pa.; Jacksonville, N.C.; Murrsville, Pa.; Newport, Or.; St. Pauls, N.C.
MSA Canada Inc., Toronto, Edmundton
MSA de Mexico, S.A. de C.V., Queretaro

Europe

MSA Europe GmbH (Headquarters), Berlin, Germany
Mine Safety Hungary Ltd., Budapest, Hungary
Mine Safety Romania S.R.L., Bucharest, Romania
Mine Safety Sp. z o.o., Raczyn, Poland
MSA-Auer GmbH, Berlin, Germany
MSA-Auer GmbH, Czech a.s., Praha, Czech (Service Center)
MSA-Auer GmbH, Romania, a.s., Bucuresti, Romania (Branch)
MSA-Auer GmbH, Slovakia a.s., Poznok, Slovakia (Service Center)
MSA-Auer Kiew, Kyiv, Ukraine (Representative Office)
MSA-Auer Moskow, Moscow, Russia (Representative Office)
MSA-Auer Petrosani, Petrosani, Romania (Service Center)
MSA-Auer Sicherheitstechnik Vertriebs GmbH, Abidorf, Austria
MSA Almaty, Almaty, Kazakhstan (Service Center)
MSA Auer GmbH, Slovakia,os., Bratislava, Slovakia (Service Center)
MSA-Auer GmbH, Zurich, Switzerland (Representative Office)

International

Comasol Ltda., Bogota, Colombia
MSA de Argentina S.A., Buenos Aires
MSA (Aust.) Pty Ltd., Sydney
MSA (Australia), Auckland, New Zealand (Branch Office)
MSA do Brasil Ltda., Sao Paulo
MSA de Chile Ltda., Santiago
MSA (China) Safety Equipment Co., Ltd., Suzhou
MSA Egypt LLC, Cairo
MSA Hong Kong Ltd., Hong Kong
MSA (India) Limited, Calcutta
MSA Indonesia Ltd., Jakarta
MSA Japan Ltd., Tokyo
MSA Safety Malaysia Sdn Bhd, Kuala Lumpur
MSA Middle East, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.
MSA Middle East FZE, Dubai, U.A.E.
MSA del Peru S.A.C., Lima
MSA S.E. Asia Pte, Ltd, Singapore
MSA Select Ltd., Kitwe, Zambia
MSA (Suzhou) Safety Equipment Research and Development Co., Ltd., Suzhou, China
MSA (Thailand), Limited, Bangkok
Sammac Holding (Pty) Limited, Johannesburg
Wuxi MSA Safety Equipment Co., Ltd, Wuxi, China

DIREKTORS AND CORPORATE OFFICERS

Board of Directors

John T. Ryan III (1)
Chairman of the Board, Retired (2008); formerly Chief Executive Officer of the Company

Robert A. Bruggeworth (2)
President and Chief Executive Officer, RF Micro Devices, Inc. (high-performance radio systems and applications that drive mobile communications); Director, RF Micro Devices, Inc.

James A. C edema (2) (3) (4)
Owner and President, Cederna International, Inc. (executive coaching)

Thomas R. Nentwig (3) (4)
Retired (2003); formerly President of the Company

William M. Lambert (1)
President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company

William M. Lambert (2)
Chief Financial Officer; Cote and Ballon (home furnishings retailer)

E. Edward Shaw, Jr.
Senior Managing Director, Breeden Capital Management LLC and its affiliates (investment management and multi-disciplinary professional services firm); Director of HealthSouth Corporation; Director of H&R Block, Inc.

John C. Oates (1) (3) (4)
Partner and General Counsel, Reed Smith LLP (full service law firm)

Thomas H. Witmer (1) (2) (3)
Retired (1998); formerly President and Chief Executive Officer, Medrad, Inc. (manufacture of medical devices)

(1) Member of Executive Committee
(2) Member of Audit Committee
(3) Member of Compensation Committee
(4) Member of Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Officers

William M. Lambert
President and Chief Executive Officer

Roberto Cederna
Executive Vice President, President, MSA International

Dominic L. Zimber
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Joseph A. Bigler
Vice President, President, MSA North America

Kerry M. Bove
Vice President, Global Operational Excellence

Ronald N. Herring, Jr.
Vice President, Global Product Leadership

Douglas M. McClain
Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

Stephen C. Philp
Vice President, Chief Information Officer

Paul R. Uihler
Vice President, Global Human Resources

Section 302 Certifications and NYSE CEO Certification

In June 2008, the Company’s Chief Executive Officer submitted to the New York Stock Exchange the annual certification as to compliance with the Exchange’s Corporate Governance Listing Standards required by Section 303A.12(a) of the Exchange’s Listed Company Manual. The certification was unqualified.

The Company’s reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission during the past year, including the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, have contained the certifications of the Company’s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer regarding the quality of the Company’s public disclosure required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Shareholders’ Inquiries

Additional copies of the company’s 2008 Annual Report, including Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, may be obtained by shareholders after April 1, 2009. Printed and electronic versions are available. Requests should be directed to the Chief Financial Officer, who can be reached at one of the following:

Phone: 412-967-3367
Fax: 412-967-3367
Internet: MSA.net
U.S. Mail: MSA Chief Financial Officer
P.O. Box 426
Pittsburgh, PA 15230