

NAMES in the news

The RMH Group, Lakewood, has appointed five new vice presidents—Eric Bunce, Kirsten Cremona, Roy Mucilli, Jon Rasmussen, and Mike Watkins. The promotions came as part of a long-term leadership transition strategy being implemented by the firm's current executive management team.

Bunce is both an electrical engineer and a journeyman electrician. He has been with RMH for more than 11 years, and his group focuses on supporting higher education, military and data-center projects.

Cremona is an electrical engineer who has been with RMH for 19 years. Her group primarily serves federal and municipal agencies under open-ended contracts and commercial office clientele.

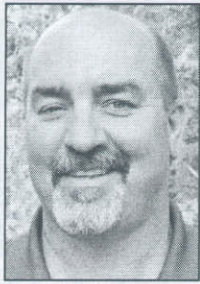
Mucilli is a mechanical engineer with more than 40 years of design and construction experience focused almost exclusively on health-care projects. His group will continue to grow the RMH Group presence in the health-care market.

Rasmussen is an electrical engineer who has been with RMH for more than 14 years. His group develops solutions for federal agencies, petrochemical and industrial facilities and justice centers.

Watkins is an electrical engineer with experience concentrated in aerospace, laboratories and research facility design. He has been with RMH for 14 years.

Each of the new vice presidents is dedicated to serving a group of the firm's clientele and has direct access to company resources to help accomplish client goals.

"I am excited to see a strong group of leaders emerging who will help guide RMH in the future," said Bill Green, president of The RMH Group. "We are fortunate to have these individuals in our organization, and I am certain they will lead RMH to even greater success in the years ahead."



Eric Bunce



Kirsten Cremona



Roy Mucilli



Jon Rasmussen



Mike Watkins

Children's Hospital Colorado Opens New Seacrest Studio

The patients were the celebrities when Children's Hospital Colorado, the Ryan Seacrest Foundation and the Children's Hospital Colorado Foundation celebrated the late June opening of a new, state-of-the-art multi-media broadcasting studio at the Children's Hospital in Aurora.

Patients walked or were assisted down a red carpet to get to the hospital atrium, where they could watch the curtains part on the glass-walled Seacrest Studio on the east side. Seacrest and his family attended the event, and when the speeches ended, he took to the studio's microphone to interview celebrities who attended at his request: members of the group Lady Antebellum. Others on hand for the event were musical duo MKTO, Disney star Stefanie Scott and former Rockies first baseman Todd Helton.

Seacrest told the crowd that he had asked Lady Antebellum to attend the event at the finale of "American Idol," and it "took half a second" for them to accept.

The 1,000-sq-ft studio is the seventh one funded by Seacrest's foundation, with the intent that patients and families "will benefit from the studio's interactive nature and find a creative outlet and healing opportunity during their stay," according to the foundation.

The studio is home to a new closed-circuit television channel called BBoy 45 (BBoy for Balloon Boy), where patients at the Aurora Fitzsimons medical campus, the CHC North Campus, and CHC South Campus can view and respond to the studio's programming.

During the opening event, BBoy 45 was tied to the channel at the Seacrest Studio at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Eventually, said Children's CEO Jim Shmerling, all the studios' channels will be linked together to share



Courtesy of GH Phipps

TV personality Ryan Seacrest interviewed celebrities who attended the studio opening at his request, including members of the singing group Lady Antebellum.

programming. He said that after he visited the studio in Atlanta and learned from a patient and her mother how much access to the studio had helped them, he wanted one for CHC. The next studio to come on line will be in Boston.

The studio was designed by FKP Architects in Dallas, with H+L Architecture of Denver serving as architect-of-record, and built by GH Phipps Construction Cos., Greenwood Village.

NACM's Credit Managers' Index Falls in June

The June Credit Managers' Index (CMI) reading from the National Association of Credit Management (NACM) was 56.1—barely higher than it was in April, but falling well below May's 56.8.

The readings had been closing in on 60 (57.1 in November and 57.3 in January) and are still firmly in positive territory but are not trending in the preferred direction, NACM says. The services sector took the brunt of the impact, and the manufacturing sector did not budge for the second month in a row.

After the readings last month, NACM officials thought the CMI would show continued progress, but the manufacturing sector was flat, and the service sector experienced a very sharp decline—enough to drag the index down. "The drop was unexpected, which has suddenly become a common refrain, as some other data releases are starting to show similar trends," said NACM economist Chris Kuehl. "It now appears that the economy contracted far more than originally reported.

"Add to this the latest data on durable goods, and there is something amiss," he added. "Consumer confidence numbers have recovered to levels not seen since the start of the recession, but that renewed level of enthusiasm has not been enough to pull the economy forward, or so it would seem."

The damage was greater in the unfavorable categories, although the favorable factors saw some decline as well. The combined index of favorable factors deteriorated slightly from 62.7 to 62.4, but that is still firmly in the 60 range. The biggest drop was in sales, which went from a several years' high of 65.6 to 63.9—a reading higher than at any point since November of last year, but after the surge last month, credit officials hoped the trend would accelerate.

Dollar collections dropped out of the 60s, from 61.2 to 59.3, and the amount of credit extended also slipped, from 65 to 64.8, but stayed very close to the record highs of late. New credit applications improved, and that could be good or bad news, NACM officials say. It is now over 60 for the first time since the recession, sitting at 61.5, after 58.9 last month.

"The problem is that there were more rejections of credit applications as well," Kuehl said. "When there are more applicants and more rejections, it is a signal that more companies in financial distress are seeking credit in the hopes that somebody will help them survive."

The real shifts seem to be taking place in the unfavorable factors, suggesting a certain amount of economic and financial distress, Kuehl said. The unfavorable factor index slipped by al-

most a full point, from 52.8 to 52, but the bigger news was the change in some of the individual factors. Rejections of credit applications shifted from 52.7 to 52, suggesting the existence of more desperate applicants.

Accounts placed for collection also shifted a little, from 53.8 to 52.5—a sign that more creditors are falling too far behind to ignore, sparking more collection activity. Disputes slipped under 50 again to 49.5 after being at 50.2 in May.

"This is an area of worry for a few months now and is another signal of some financial distress as companies try to change the terms of their arrangements using whatever leverage they can," Kuehl said.

There was also a major dip in dollar amount beyond terms as it slipped below 50 for the first time since December. It is now at 49.6 after being at 51.5 last month. Dollar amount of customer deductions also slipped under 50 for the first time in over two years to 49.4, a full point down from May. Filings for bankruptcies actually improved and is as robust as it has been in some time. The reading this month is 58.9 compared to 58.4 last month.

"It will be interesting to see if this reading gets worse in future months as these other categories are now trending badly," Kuehl said.

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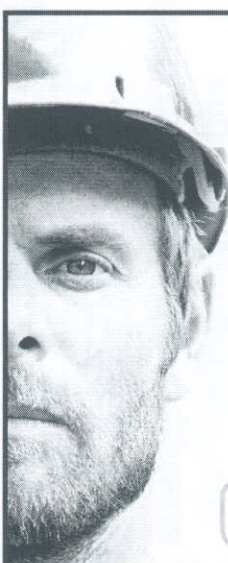


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