

### West Completes Second China Plant

West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc. has completed its compression molding plant in the Shanghai Zhangjiang High-Tech Industrial Development Zone Qingpu Park in China. The new 11,900-square-meter plant manufactures components for packaging injectable drugs, supplying customers primarily in China and the Asia-Pacific region. It's adjacent to the company's injection molding facility that was dedicated in September 2009.

"West is experiencing an exciting period of growth in the Asia-Pacific region and we are proud to complete our second manufacturing facility in China," said Donald E. Morel, Jr.,

West's chairman and chief executive officer. "This facility will provide better service to our customers, offering shorter lead times for delivery of our world-class pharmaceutical packaging products and creating new, flexible capacity to meet the growing demands for our products in China and throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Our investment in this new facility demonstrates our commitment to and confidence in the China market."

In addition to the plants in Qingpu, West also has a factory in Singapore and sales offices in Australia, China, India and Singapore. The company's first manufacturing facility in India is currently under construction. ■

### IPS Opens New Headquarters

In September, IPS—Integrated Project Services opened its new corporate headquarters in Blue Bell, PA. The 44,000-sq.-ft. offices include nine conference rooms, 45 private offices, and 216 workstations and can expand into another 8,000 sq. ft. Given the company's growth rate in recent years — from 200 employees to 800 in the past three years — that extra space may come in handy. Being a full-service engineering firm comes in handy when you need a new facility; IPS designed the offices itself!

The open house celebration for the headquarters was held in conjunction with a Technologies Summit on site. The summit consisted of a pair of one-hour seminar blocks, with four choices of presentation for each hour. The first block of



Celebrating the grand opening! From left: Russ Somma, PhD (SommaTech); RJ Palermo (INTERPHEX); Mark Butler (IPS); Alycia Grenesko (INTERPHEX)



IPS threw a grand opening reception after its Technology Summit

topics were *Current Trends in Advanced Aseptic Processing Technology* (presented by Sterling Kline, RA), *Mitigating Processing Risk* (Sam Halaby and Russ Somma, Ph.D.), *Using the NextGen of Manufacturing Facilities: A Move Toward Excellence* (Jeff Odum, CPIP and Tom Piombino, PE), and *Cost / Benchmarking* (John Costalas, LEED AP). The second session included *Practical Application of Current Risk-Based C&Q Practices* (Vince Cebular, LEED AP and Chuck Stock, MBA, CxA), *Energy Efficiency in the Pharma Industry* (Josh Capparella, PE, LEED AP), *Emerging Market Capital Sourcing* (Kevin Batche), and *Pharma Supply Chain: A Strategic View to the Future* (Peter Bigelow).

After the presentations and Q&A, IPS held a reception in the building's lobby and held tours for attendees.

### PARTICLE CHARACTERIZATION

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particle size determination methods in order to be able to get a fulfilling description of the product in relation to different critical properties.

If the manufacturing process changes, or if you change supplier, you will always observe a change in particle characteris-

tics, either with regard to size or morphology of the particles. In these cases you must evaluate what impact these changes will have — not only on the particle size, but also on other critical parameters. Thus, you should reassure that the method you use for determination of particle sizes is still valid in order to describe the properties of your product correctly. ■