

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Uponor Consolidates Production Operations; Closes Canadian Facility**

In response to the prolonged downturn in the construction and building market, Uponor recently announced a plan to initiate a cost-reduction program throughout North America and Europe. To structure Uponor North America for sustained profitability and growth, the company announced today it will close its Canadian manufacturing facility in Saint John, New Brunswick, effective Sept. 10, 2008.

"We've been successfully managing our company throughout the market's downturn," says Anders Tollsten, executive vice president, Uponor North America. "In order to respond to the continued economic conditions and increased transportation costs, we made the decision to consolidate our production capabilities in North America."

UNA's primary manufacturing facility is located at the company's headquarters in Apple Valley, Minn.

Uponor's global cost-reduction program also indicated that 200 positions would be affected throughout Europe and North America. Approximately 80 employees of those 200 are impacted by the Saint John closure, and Uponor is working with those affected by offering outplacement services and severance packages. UNA will recruit new employees for the

Apple Valley manufacturing facility, which will minimize the impact on the total personnel reduction in North America.

"Our actions are part of our global initiative to ensure success in a low-volume building market," Tollsten says. "Despite the difficult economic environment, we are taking advantage of opportunities and actively focusing on our strategic-growth initiatives, such as new product development, investments in our Apple Valley, Minn. manufacturing facility, new distribution center and sales and marketing objectives in the U.S. and Canada."

Tollsten adds that Uponor has positioned its organization to align with the current volume of business. "We're convinced that consolidating our production capabilities will improve our overall operational effectiveness," he says. "And by streamlining our organization, we will be able to continue to invest in our strategic growth."

Bill Gray, Uponor Ltd. general manager, Canada, says, "I'm confident the consolidation of production in Apple Valley will enhance service to our customers. As well, we recently opened our new Canadian headquarters in the greater Toronto area, and we are investing in sales and marketing resources throughout Canada. These actions demonstrate Uponor's long-term planning and commitment to better serve our Canadian customers."

**Uponor** is a leading supplier of PEX-a plumbing, fire safety and radiant heating and cooling systems for the residential and commercial building markets across North America and Europe. Uponor Corporation employs about 4,700 people globally and is listed on the OMX Nordic Exchange in Helsinki, Finland.

**Uponor, Inc.** is headquartered in Apple Valley, Minn. For more information, visit [www.uponor-usa.com](http://www.uponor-usa.com) or call (800) 321-4739.

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