



MSA Elects Roberto Canizares as President, International

Mar 11,2003

PITTSBURGH, March 11 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- The Board of Directors of Mine Safety Appliances Co. (Amex: MSA) has elected Roberto (Rob) Canizares as President, International of the company. In his new position, Mr. Canizares will assume the responsibility for MSA operations in all countries outside of North America, Europe and the Central Asian republics, as well as for the International staff in Pittsburgh. Mr. Canizares succeeds George W. Steggles, who retired in July 2002.

"International activities are a strategic priority for MSA. They present the greatest proportional growth opportunities for the company and fit with our historic interest in global customer reach," said John T. Ryan III, MSA Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "Rob Canizares possesses the skills and international experience necessary to effectively lead our International team in fulfilling MSA's worldwide mission to be the leading innovator and provider of quality products, related technologies and services."

Mr. Canizares joins MSA after 27 years with the Trane Company, the largest division of American Standard. His executive responsibilities began in Asia and the Americas and then focused on Trane's operations in Asia. Under his leadership, Trane built in Asia an integrated operations with manufacturing plants in multiple locations in the Asia-Pacific region, including China. In the early part of his career, Mr. Canizares was involved in product management, marketing and sales management, and strategic planning. Most recently, he led Trane's worldwide Systems Sales and Service organization.

Mr. Canizares was educated at Cornell University where he earned an undergraduate degree in engineering and applied physics and a master's degree in business administration. He also earned a master's degree in applied economics from Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium.

Established in 1914, MSA is the world's leading provider of quality products and services that protect people's health, safety and the environment. The company has annual sales of over \$550 million. MSA products are available in more than 140 countries and are supported globally by 27 international MSA affiliates.

SOURCE Mine Safety Appliances Company