

MDM News Digest

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Hagemeyer has released its 2008-2009 Safety Products catalog. Hagemeyer's user-friendly catalog is an expanded version of the original safety catalog and now includes products for the industrial, governmental and industrial hygiene communities. The 652-page catalog also features safety and firefighting products.

U.S. wholesale prices rose 1.2 percent in July, seasonally adjusted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. This increase followed a 1.8-percent jump in June and a 1.4-percent rise in May.

U.S. industrial production increased 0.2 percent in July after having advanced 0.4 percent in June. In July, the capacity utilization rate for total industry edged up to 79.9 percent, a level 1.1 percentage points below its average for 1972-2007.

Canadian manufacturers reported \$52.5 billion in sales in June, up 2.1 percent from May and the fifth increase in six months. In constant dollars, manufacturing sales increased 0.6 percent to \$47 billion in June. Industrial prices for petroleum and coal, chemical products, wood products, and motor vehicles rose notably during the month.

June U.S. manufacturing technology consumption totaled \$360.43 million, according to the Association For Manufacturing Technology and the American Machine Tool Distributors' Association. This total was level with May, and up 2 percent from the total of \$353.40 million reported for June 2007. Year-to-date, 2008 is up 15.3 percent compared with 2007.

Atlanta, GA-based **The Home Depot**, a home improvement retailer, reported sales of \$21 billion for the second quarter of 2008, a 5.4 percent decrease from the same period 2007. Profit was \$1.2 billion, down 25 percent from second quarter 2007. For the first six months, sales were down 4.5% to \$40.7 billion. Profit was down 40 percent.

San Francisco, CA-based **Building Materials Holding Corp.**, a provider of building materials and construction services to professional residential builders and contractors, reported sales of \$385 million for the second quarter of 2008, a decrease of 41 percent from the same quarter a year ago. The company reported a net loss of \$31.9 million compare to a profit of \$19.4 million for second quarter 2007.

The second quarter results put **BMHC** in viola-

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Calculation of MDM Inflation Index for July 2008

	BLS Price Indices Jul. '08	BLS Price Indices Jun. '08	BLS Price Indices Jul. '07	% Sales Weight	Weighted Indices Jul. '08 (1)X(4)	% Change Jul. '08 Jun. '08	% Change Jul. '08 Jul. '07
1136 Abr. Prod.	492.8	486.0	465.2	19.1	94.12	1.41	5.93
1135 Cutting Tools	443.3	442.5	436.3	18.9	83.79	0.18	1.62
1145 Power Trans.	693.5	677.6	640.4	15.4	106.81	2.35	8.29
1081 Fasteners	487.7	481.2	448.3	9.0	43.90	1.35	8.80
1149.01 Valves, etc.	835.9	841.6	786.9	7.6	63.53	-0.67	6.23
1132 Power Tools	336.8	336.3	329.0	6.5	21.89	0.13	2.36
1144 Mat. Handling	498.0	491.4	463.3	6.2	30.88	1.34	7.49
0713.03 Belting	584.9	575.5	544.3	6.1	35.68	1.62	7.45
1042 Hand Tools	717.2	701.5	678.0	8.1	58.09	2.23	5.78
108 Misc. Metal	452.9	441.3	418.2	3.1	14.04	2.62	8.31
"New" July Index	288.8	July Inflation Index			552.71	1.23	6.03
"New" June Index	285.3	June Inflation Index			546.01		
		July 2007 Inflation Index			521.28		

New index reflects 1977=100 base other #: 1967 To convert multiply by .52247