

NEWS



## A. M. CASTLE & CO.

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Traded: AMEX, CSE (CAS)  
Member: S&P SmallCap 600 Index

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2004**

### **A. M. CASTLE & CO. ANNOUNCES PROMOTION OF** **G. THOMAS MCKANE AND STEPHEN V. HOOKS**

**FRANKLIN PARK, ILLINOIS, JANUARY 22, 2004 — A. M. CASTLE & CO. (AMEX: CAS)**, The Board of Directors of A. M. Castle & Co., a North American distributor of highly engineered metals and plastics, today announced the promotion of two of its executive officers. G. Thomas McKane, President and Chief Executive Officer, was elected to the additional position of Chairman of the Board, replacing Michael Simpson who is retiring after 24 years in that position. Mr. Simpson will assume the position of Chairman Emeritus and will continue to serve on the Company's Board. Steven V. Hooks, who previously served as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing, was promoted to the newly established position of Executive Vice President of A. M. Castle & Co. and Chief Operating Officer of Castle Metals, the Company's primary business unit.

In making the announcement, the Board stated that these promotions represent the completion of a planned restructuring of executive responsibilities at the Company which was initiated in 2000 when Mr. McKane joined Castle as its President and Chief Executive Officer. Since that time Mr. McKane has led initiatives designed to rationalize the Company's business units, improve operating efficiency and asset utilization and to strengthen its financial position. With those initiatives substantially completed the Company's attention will turn to building sales growth in its core products. Mr. Hooks', a veteran employee with 31 years of service to the Company, was chosen to lead that effort for the Castle Metals business which comprises nearly 90 percent of the Company's sales volume.

A.M. Castle & Co.  
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Mr. McKane will have reporting to him, in addition to Mr. Hooks, the rapidly growing subsidiaries of Total Plastics, Inc., and Castle de Mexico, as well as the Kreher Steel Co. joint venture, and all of the corporate staff functions. Mr. McKane will also assume responsibility for all Board and shareholder relations.

Founded in 1890, A. M. Castle & Co. provides highly engineered materials and value added services to a wide range of companies within the producer durable equipment sector of the economy. Its customer base includes many Fortune 500 companies as well as thousands of medium and smaller-sized firms spread across a wide spectrum of industries. Within its core metals business, it specializes in the distribution of carbon, alloy and stainless steels; nickel alloy; aluminum; titanium; copper and brass. Through its subsidiary, Total Plastics, Inc., the Company also distributes a broad range of value-added industrial plastics. Together, Castle and its affiliated companies operate over 50 locations throughout North America. Its common stock is traded on the American and Chicago Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "CAS".