



Hillenbrand Industries Names Michael A. Gardner Vice President, Corporate Audit

BATESVILLE, INDIANA, WEDNESDAY, March 13, 2002 - Hillenbrand Industries, Inc. (NYSE:HB), a leader in the health care and funeral service industries, announced today the election of Michael A. Gardner to the position of vice president, corporate audit.

Gardner, 53, joined Hillenbrand Industries as the director, corporate audit, in 1995. Previously, he was controller for Indiana Bell Telephone from 1993 to 1995 and manager, internal audit, for Ameritech from 1986 to 1993, both in Indianapolis, Ind. He also served as a faculty member for the Indiana State University School of Business; audit supervisor for Coopers & Lybrand; and, internal auditor with Eli Lilly & Company.

Upon his appointment, Hillenbrand Industries Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Scott K. Sorensen said, "this promotion recognizes Mike's many contributions to, and leadership of, our Corporate Audit group as well as risk and control management activities over the past seven years. Along with his new position, Mike will take on expanded responsibilities to develop a worldclass enterprise business risk management process to further enhance our Company's capabilities in this critical area."

Gardner earned a master's of business administration degree in 1985, and a bachelor's of arts degree in political science and economics in 1976, both from Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. In addition, he is a certified public accountant, certified internal auditor, and certified information systems auditor. He is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors, where he was named Distinguished Faculty Member and serves on its Board of Governors. He is also a member of the American Institute of CPAs, the Audit Council of Manufacturers Alliance, and the Information Systems Control and Audit Association.

About Hillenbrand Industries Inc.

Hillenbrand Industries, Inc., headquartered in Batesville, Indiana, is a publicly traded holding company for three major wholly owned businesses serving the health care and funeral services industries. All three subsidiaries have headquarters in Batesville, Indiana.

Hillenbrand Industries' Health Care Group consists of Hill-Rom Company, a recognized leader in the worldwide health care community providing sales, rentals, service and support for products including beds, therapy surfaces, stretchers, infant warmers, incubators, furniture, communication systems, surgical columns, medical gas management systems, modular headwalls and lighting systems.

The company's Funeral Services Group consists of two businesses: Batesville Casket Company, the leading manufacturer and supplier of burial caskets, cremation products and related services to licensed funeral homes; and Forethought Financial Services, the leading provider of insurance and trust-based financial products and services for pre-planning funeral services.

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