



HPP affiliate, The Access Group Merges With Kansas City Company

Effective February 21st, HPP's affiliate company, The ACCESS Group, LLC (known as TAG to many) which serves the manufacturing sector via its Lean Manufacturing, Engineering, and Consulting services was acquired by TranSystems Corporation of Kansas City, MO. HPP will continue to focus exclusively on healthcare related companies and continue to operate under its current ownership and leadership structure with no connection to the TranSystems and TAG merger.

TranSystems is a leader in providing services around the total flow of goods and services in a manufacturing value stream, starting with a customer's need to examine their current supply chain network, to finding or building a facility, and proceeding until a finished product is placed into the hands of the consumer. With a strong history and background in architecture and engineering, TranSystems has placed a concerted effort into being able to offer end-to-end professional services throughout the total supply chain. The Lean strategy development and implementation capabilities and the strong process engineering and management skills retained by TAG were a natural fit for TranSystems toward their goal of delivering a full range of Supply Chain Solutions. The acquisition will allow an expanded business base for TAG, as well as provide TranSystems with an unparalleled offering of problem solving tools and capabilities for the full manufacturing and distribution supply chain. In today's economy, the optimized use of all resources throughout the total value stream is critical for competing and surviving in business and for being good stewards in the wise use of all of our business resources. With TAG now on board, TranSystems has confidently strengthened their capability to serve their full range of well known clients. For TAG's clients, this means a greatly expanded offering of tools and capabilities to solve a broad array of critical business problems faced in today's market.

The team at TAG will essentially remain intact as we begin our operations with TranSystems. The TAG office will continue to operate in Gallatin for the foreseeable future and current phone numbers and e-mail addresses will continue to be useable as we make the transition to the TranSystems network.

Former TAG affiliate company, Healthcare Performance Partners (HPP), with managing Principal Charles Hagood, will continue its normal operations serving the healthcare industry as TAG makes its transition into the TranSystems organization. HPP, along with its Montana based Lean Healthcare West alliance, will continue to operate under its current ownership and leadership structure with no connection to the TranSystems and TAG merger. Charles Hagood, CEO of HPP stated, "this transaction will allow TAG to continue its growth of recent years while HPP will be focusing exclusively on the Healthcare industry in the future to continue its phenomenal growth." HPP headquarters will also continue operating in its Nashville area Gallatin, Tennessee location.

Former TAG Principal, Mike Brown, stated "This is a very exciting opportunity for TAG to step up to the next level of capability and service for the total supply chain market sector and should

provide new arenas for applying the skill sets that have grown TAG's relationships with its current clients."



About TranSystems

TranSystems, headquartered in Kansas City, has over 1,300 employees in 43 offices throughout the United States, including its office in the downtown Nashville area. With expertise in Architectural & Engineering, Real Estate, and Security services, in addition to their Supply Chain solutions, TranSystems serves developers, manufacturers & distributors, shippers & carriers, the Federal Government, States & Municipalities, and other elements of the total flow of goods and services from inception to delivery.