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RANCH CRYOGENICS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

And announces the SR-A-150 L-300 merchant air separation plant

Ranch Cryogenics, Inc., of Bechtelsville, PA, began operating as an independent plant project engineer/management company, specializing in air separation plant relocation, in 1987 when Mike Duffy, Sr. decided to strike out on his own after 21 years in related businesses. Mike Duffy Senior's career, which began in Milwaukee, WI in 1966, included work for Northern Gases as a truck and trailer mechanic. Mike went on to install customer stations and customer supply piping. He operated and managed several air separation plants (ASUs) and finally found his calling when he was assigned to move two 69 ton per day (T/D) gaseous oxygen plants from Chicago to Waukesha, WI. The compressors, dryers, refrigeration units and heat exchangers were successfully moved and retrofitted to an existing ASU plant to provide increased liquid nitrogen production for a growing market.

This project was so successful that, as the market called for more liquid oxygen, nitrogen and argon, two more plants were built from the distillation columns that were left over from the liquefier project. Mike Duffy met the challenge by assembling the two facilities around old cold boxes utilizing new state-of-the-art equipment. These plants, one in Wisconsin and the other in Texas, proved to be very profitable and are still running after more than 20 years.

Mike was involved in several other successful plant relocations as well as in new plant construction. This experience inspired Mike to start his own company in 1987, one that specialized in relocating existing plants for customers that didn't have the time or budget to erect a new facility. Since then, Ranch Cryogenics, Inc. (RCI) has relocated plants throughout the United States and the world including Korea, Turkey, Papua New Guinea, China, Malaysia, Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago, Peru, Canada and Mexico. RCI also pro-

vides operating assistance nationwide as needed. In the last few years, the company has expanded into fabricating control panels, analyzer panels and, very recently, equipment skids. Also, they have begun providing contractual operating assistance to owners of gas production plants in cases where gas production is not their main expertise.

"It's been interesting to see the growth of our customers," says Mike. "It seems just like yesterday that RCI built EPCO's first CO₂ plant. Today EPCO is a major player in the CO₂ business. Another former client, Norco, a very large regional industrial, medical, and specialty gas distributor, has just selected RCI to build their new merchant plant in Moses Lake WA." Mike continues, "We also built Jupiter Aluminum's first oxygen plant in 2000. They just asked us back to erect a second in 2006 and to build a third in 2008."

After twenty years of specializing in relocating used plants, RCI has announced its latest new venture — the SR-A-150 L-300

merchant air separation plant. Mike Duffy Sr. explains the company's new direction: "Given the shortage of used plants that are available at this time, RCI had to explore its options. We realized the best answer for our

company was to start designing and building new plants at a more affordable price. We already have one plant sold and are in talks regarding building two more."

Founding father Mike Duffy, Sr. concludes, "The last 20 years have been great for Ranch Cryogenics. With my son Mike Duffy Jr., and my grandson Trey Duffy, you can count on Ranch Cryogenics, Inc. being around for another 20 years."

For further information on Ranch Cryogenics, contact Trey Duffy at mduffy3@ranchcryogenics.com or visit us at www.ranchcryogenics.com. □



Three generations of Duffys: (left to right) Mike Duffy Jr., Mike Duffy Sr., and Mike "Trey" Duffy, III.