

Companies in Motion

3M Puerto Rico showcases innovations for business

BY CB STAFF

Worldwide, 3M is a company that is constantly innovating, said Ricardo M. Piñeiro, corporate marketing manager for 3M Puerto Rico; and one which recently established a new base of operations to show off its sundry wares at the Santander Tower in Guaynabo.

"We have showrooms for every business group we cater to," Piñeiro said, explaining that the new facility is state-of-the-art and "fosters collaboration with people. We can share with our business partners all that we have to offer." The various business product displays include the safety & graphics group, healthcare, industrial, transportation, electronic & energy, and consumer business.

3M has been operating in Puerto Rico since 1960 and employs 56 people on the island. Globally, 3M has more than 89,000 employees.

Renowned for its everyday consumer products, such as Scotch tape and Post-It note pads, that are ubiquitous fixtures in every home, office and classroom, 3M is also an innovator of products that are revolutionizing commerce and industry. "3M captures the spark of new ideas and transforms them in thousands of ingenious products," Piñeiro pointed out. "Our culture of creative collaboration inspires a never-ending stream of powerful technologies that make life better."

BEST KNOWN BRANDS

"Our consumer business is home to some of the best-known brands in the world," he observed.



Similarly, 3M technology is providing new solutions in areas of electronics and energy. "We are contributing to more reliable sources of power, high-performance electronic devices, and speedy and dependable telecommunications networks," he said. "We are also leading the way in renewable energy to improve quality while reducing cost."

In healthcare, 3M is a global leader in producing medical and oral care products, as well as drug delivery and health information systems, Piñeiro noted out, emphasizing that the company assists healthcare professionals in improving the quality of care.

3M's contributions to industrial operations is likewise impressive. "We provide thousands of innovative products including tapes, abrasives, adhesives, specialty materials and filtration systems to dozens of diverse markets, from purification to the automotive aftermarket and aerospace."

SECURE & PRODUCTIVE

3M product innovations are producing solutions that are increasing the safety, security and productivity of people, facilities and systems around the world, Piñeiro said, adding that the personal protective equipment, safety and security gear, and track and trace solutions are making work on a large scale more secure and productive. "We also inspire creative communication and design with a broad portfolio of graphic solutions that enhance visual impact," he observed.

Connectivity is what 3M is all about, according to Piñeiro. "This is where the 'magic' happens at 3M," he said. "Solutions that customers never thought possible are able to occur at 3M because of the sharing that takes place on a daily basis. We invest significantly in R&D capabilities year after year to drive opportunity for the richest collaboration possible," noting that the evolution of ideas and innovation is limitless.

The activities of the new and improved Puerto Rico office are "focused on further developing 3M's presence and footprint across all the markets that we serve," he said. Its presence in the Caribbean region also includes offices in the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Jamaica. ■

Plaza 273 stands green among properties in Hato Rey

BY MARIO BELAVAL DÍAZ

The class-A Plaza 273 office building is the green pride of San Juan's Hato Rey financial district now that it has been awarded LEED Gold Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for construction of the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) offices. Located on the corner of Ponce de León Avenue and Mexico Street and managed by Commercial Centers Management Realty S. en C. [Sociedad en Comandita, or limited partnership] (CCM), the project received the certification for transforming the building's 11th floor and part of the 12th floor into a showcase of sustainable design. The area has a combined 19,000 square feet.

"This recognition places us among the leaders in sustainability in the U.S. and the world," said Salvador Yapur, CCM vice president of new-construction development. "But we are even more proud of the fact that it shows that Puerto Rico has

Salvador Yapur, CCM vice president in charge of new-construction development; Omar Collado, CCM operations manager for Plaza 273.



the talent, from construction workers to engineers and architects, to handle any project, especially one that requires such attention to detail."

The LEED certification stands for Leadership in Energy & Environment Design, which is an internationally recognized system that measures how well a building or community performs across metrics in the areas of energy savings, water efficiency, carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission reduction, improved indoor environmental quality and stewardship of resources. LEED standards provide building owners and operators a concise framework

to identify and incorporate practical and measurable green designs, construction, operation and maintenance of sustainable green buildings.

"You could say this type of recognition adds to Plaza 273's other qualities that make it attractive for potential clients," said Omar Collado, CCM operations manager for Plaza 273. "But it is also proof of our commitment as a socially responsible company by providing the people who work in and visit our properties the most agreeable atmosphere possible, and also to do our part in the protection of the environment."

This commitment is also precisely reflected in the fact that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) bestowed the Energy Star classification on the property. It is an EPA voluntary program that recognizes a property has completed the necessary transformation of systems, such as lighting and ventilation, that is cost-effective, energy efficient and provides a good working or living environment. ■

ORIENTAL WEEKLY

A quick guide to a different way of banking.

Oriental

Take control of your financial future

BY: JUAN JOSÉ SANTIAGO, ESQ., CPA- SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT & TRUST OFFICER

When it comes to your financial future, the name of the game is planning, but when it comes to helping you save and invest, the key is confidence that your financial advisor won't play any games with your money. Retirement may seem like a far off prospect for you today, but the earlier you start laying the groundwork for that moment, the better off you and your family will be tomorrow. We recommend our clients speak with their financial advisors, about our products and how best to plan for your financial future.

We recommend a consideration of our diverse IRA accounts as an additional financial tool. The



Juan José Santiago
Senior vice president and
Chief Fiduciary Officer

deductible version of these accounts allows individuals to direct pretax income towards investments

that can grow tax-deferred. The Diversified Growth IRA or DGI¹, for example, is an IRA investment fund in Puerto Rico that invests in a combination of stocks, bonds, and general assets in the United States and Puerto Rico designed to maximize long term investment. This fund is not insured by the FDIC or Oriental Bank.

If you are looking to invest for a short or medium fixed term between 1 to 5 years, with a conservative strategy, the CD IRA² may be for you. You can open it with a minimum balance of \$250, interests are accumulated every quarter, and it can be used to purchase your first home.

The IRA Fácil allows clients greater flexibility when depositing or withdrawing funds. Since it

renews automatically every 30 days, it is considered a short term conservative investment strategy. It can also help you save for the purchase of your first home with interests credited monthly. In addition to these options, there are other IRAs designed to help you save for educational purposes of your eligible beneficiaries or that simply allow you to have a fixed monthly income during retirement; depositary IRAs, FDIC insured³.

These are just some of the retirement products and services we have to offer. While no one knows with certainty what their future holds, with the right guidance and assistance, your financial future doesn't have to be left to chance. ⁴ ■

¹Diversified Growth IRA (DGI) is only for individuals that are residents of Puerto Rico. The Diversified Growth IRA or DGI is not insured by the FDIC, is not an Oriental Bank deposit or obligation, is not guaranteed by the Bank and is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the principal invested. It also carries greater risks because it uses borrowed money to leverage the asset base of the Diversified Growth IRA trust. Please ask for the DGI Prospectus at any of our branches or at Oriental Financial Services Corp. (authorized dealer), Member FINRA/SIPC, and read it carefully before investing. Minimum opening balance: \$250. The fees for investment withdrawals (for reasons other than the participant attaining age 60, death, disability or unemployment) are: 5% of the investment balance if withdrawn during the first year, 4% of the investment balance if withdrawn during the second year, 3% of the investment balance if withdrawn during the third year, 2% of the investment balance if withdrawn during the fourth year, and 1% of the investment balance if withdrawn during the fifth year. A \$54.99 rollover fee will be charged for each rollover to an IRA in another

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institution. Subject to a 10% early withdrawal tax penalty if the withdrawal does not comply with any of the conditions permitted by the Puerto Rico Treasury Department. The annual fee for administrative and other services is 1.80%. Said annual fee is calculated based on the DGI trust's average total assets. You should consult with your tax advisor.

²CD IRA and IRA Fácil. IRA accounts are only available to individuals. Minimum opening balance \$250. Early withdrawal penalties will consist of 365 days of interest on the principal in the account (except IRA Fácil). Early distributions that do not comply with any of the conditions allowed by the Puerto Rico Treasury Department carry a 10% tax penalty. A charge of \$14.99 will be imposed for each distribution made by check. Any rollover to an IRA in another institution will be subject to a charge of \$54.99. Request and carefully read the Disclosure Statements and Disclosures of our IRAs before investing. Member FDIC.

³Subject to applicable legal and regulatory provisions of FDIC insurance coverage. For

additional information go to www.fdic.gov.
⁴We offer various IRAs. Ask for detailed information about each IRA that we offer so that you can decide which is best for you. The foregoing contents is provided for informational purposes and does not constitute legal, financial or tax advice. For such advice you should consult your own advisors. Products offered by Oriental Bank. Oriental Bank is a subsidiary of OFG Bancorp. ©2014 All Rights Reserved. OCIF B-29.

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