



Special Thanks to David Young

**By John Loudermilk: Chief Technology Officer
& President, North America**

David Young joined the erstwhile Columbian Chemicals Company initially as a summer intern at our facility in Conroe, Texas, while studying chemical engineering at Purdue University in Indiana. Beginning his relationship with the Carbon Black business through the least desirable lab testing position (as is typically the case for first year interns) was not enough to deter David from a career in Carbon Black.

David returned in subsequent years and eventually joined Columbian Chemicals Co. on a full-time basis spending time in facilities in Texas, California, Louisiana and the United Kingdom in addition to stints in our technical center and headquarters. He has led processes, manufacturing teams and product lines through involvement in both rubber and specialty Carbon Blacks. His experience also includes a period with one of our competitors that, fortunately, ended with him returning to the Columbian and Birla Carbon family.

His contributions across these various roles and organizations are too many to mention; however, his passion for the business was evident throughout. This was most clearly evidenced in his laser-like focus on variable cost improvement through our yield efforts.

Ascending to the role of Chief Technology Officer, David maintained his clear focus to help drive Birla Carbon's process technology to world class along with our cost position, setting the foundation for financial success in the business. His passion in this arena never waned and inspired the entire organization where the relentless pursuit of yield improvement is instilled as part of our culture.

Says Kevin Boyle, Chief Operating Officer, "David's focus on yield has been a key to our success and he has made a lasting impact on the business."

The organization is thankful for David's service and Birla Carbon wishes him and his wife, Marcia, the absolute best in a well-earned retirement.

