

BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING AT NATIONAL SAFE

In 2007, females accounted for 46% of the workforce within the United States, with the largest percentage of these (39%) working in management, professional and related occupations. Yet, in the manufacturing industry, only one out of every 27 CEO's were women. As such, many females have been reluctant to enter the manufacturing industry at this level. All of this has changed for National Safe, located in St. Petersburg, Florida.

National Safe Co. of America, Inc., d.b.a. National Safe, announces new ownership.

Dr. Sharon Hart brings to the table a wealth of background and experience as a CEO. An expert in revenue development, business reengineering, and market research and analysis, she has researched and authored on this topic of women in the workforce. In 1995, Sharon completed her doctorate at the University of Illinois with her dissertation on "The Education and Work History of Female Nontraditional College Graduates." Thus, she understands, supports, encourages, and now serves as a role model for women aspiring to "breaking the glass ceiling" within the manufacturing sectors.

Sharon's career began with Severance Tool, located in Saginaw, Michigan. Over the years she has directly supervised welding, machining, industrial maintenance, electronics and numerous other related areas. She has worked closely with many industry giants, including Bridgeport, Haas, and the American Welding Society, to name just a few. Dr. Hart was instrumental in the early development of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) for Southwest Wisconsin. MEP's are now located across the US and specifically serve small to medium sized manufacturing companies. Their purpose is to help these companies become more competitive in serve that gets results.

No doubt Sharon will lead National Safe to a new level of success. Her knowledge and involvement with OSHA, NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology), the MEP and others, will be a true benefit to National Safe, as it continues to manufacture superior physical security equipment—especially safes, boxes and lockers.

Prior to taking over the reins at National Safe, Dr. Hart was in higher education. For ten years she led two different public colleges in Connecticut and North Dakota. Both of these were leaders in preparing graduates for the global workplace. In addition, she served as Governor Hoeven's (ND) higher education appointment to the North Dakota Workforce Development Council and was appointed by U.S. Senator Dorgan to the North Dakota Red River Valley Research Corridor. Additionally, she has served on numerous Boards, including the Board of Editors for *The Journal of Technology Studies*, the Association of Diesel Specialists (ADS), the American Technical Education Association, the National Council on Occupational Education, the Wahpeton Chamber of Commerce (president) and the Middlesex County (CT) Chamber of Commerce to name just a few. Additionally, Dr. Hart was a Fulbright-Hayes Scholar to India and has been credited for developing numerous partnerships with colleges and businesses around the globe.

Sharon is new to the FSPA arena and will take the months ahead to learn all she can about the physical security equipment industry, as well as the history and the products presently offered by National Safe. Her goal at National Safe is to have the company remain different from competitors by continuing to provide customized products faster and at the best value. Dr. Hart can be reached at 800-634-8174 or at shnatsafe@tampabay.rr.com.