



Robert C. Ballou Joins Quanex Corporation as President - Vehicular Products Group

July 29, 2002

HOUSTON, July 29 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Quanex Corporation (NYSE: NX) announced today that Robert C. Ballou, 49, has joined the Company as President - Vehicular Products Group. He will report directly to Raymond A. Jean, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Quanex.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020729/DAM009>)

Quanex Corporation is comprised of two segments -- Vehicular Products and Building Products. In his new position, Ballou is responsible for leading the Vehicular Products Group, comprised of the operating divisions: MACSTEEL(R), with headquarters in Jackson, Michigan; Piper Impact, located in New Albany, Mississippi; Temroc Metals in Hamel, Minnesota; and Nitrosteel in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin.

Ballou brings to Quanex more than twenty-five years of experience in leadership positions in the automotive and heavy-duty truck industries. Before joining Quanex, he was President of the Components Group of Hendrickson International, a manufacturer of heavy-duty truck suspensions and components from 1999 to 2001. From 1995 to 1999 Bob was Group Vice President of Newcor, Inc., a manufacturer of components and machine tools for the automotive and off-highway markets. His automotive career began as a Co-Op student with General Motors and progressed through increasingly responsible positions within GM as well as with Coltec Industries and MascoTech.

In announcing Ballou's assignment, Ray Jean said, "Bob's strategic acumen coupled with his in-depth operational and lean manufacturing experience will strengthen our corporate leadership team. We look forward to the application of Bob's expertise to accelerate implementation of our key success factors and to identify paths for growth."

Bob graduated from General Motors Institute in Flint, Michigan with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He has also earned a Masters of Engineering degree from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Quanex Corporation is an industry-leading manufacturer of engineered materials and components for the Vehicular Products and Building Products markets. The company was founded in 1927 and its stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol NX. For further information visit the Company website at www.quanex.com .

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CAPTION: DAM009 QUANEX ROBERT BALLOU Robert C. Ballou joins Quanex Corporation as president - vehicular products group.

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