



Lee Enterprises appoints GM for Nickel Publications

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SEATTLE, Feb 22, 2002 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Lee Enterprises (NYSE:LEE) has promoted Randy Rickman from general sales manager to general manager of its Nickel Publications operations in the Seattle, Wash., and Portland, Ore., regions.

The operations include the Little Nickel, a classified advertising publication based in Lynnwood, Wash., with weekly distribution of 320,000 in the Seattle area. The Portland publication, Nickel Ads, has weekly distribution of 175,000.

John VanStrydonck, Lee vice president for Pacific Northwest publishing, said the appointment is effective today. Rickman succeeds Mario van Dongen, who has left the company.

"Randy has proven himself as a key member of the team that has made Nickel Publications one of Lee's top performers," VanStrydonck said. "It's a big job and he's earned it."

Rickman has been general sales manager of Nickel Publications since 1999. He began his career with Lee in 1979 as an apprentice pressman at the Quad-City Times in Davenport, Iowa. In 1984, he joined the Los Angeles Times, working with automotive and real estate advertisers. In 1989, he rejoined Lee as a retail team leader at The Journal Times in Racine, Wis. He later became retail advertising manager at the Rapid City Journal in South Dakota, direct marketing manager for Lee's former television stations in New Mexico, and director of Lee's former direct marketing operation in Davenport.

In addition to classified advertising publications in the Pacific Northwest, Lee owns 23 daily newspapers and half interest in five others. Lee also owns more than 100 weekly newspapers and specialty publications, along with associated online sites.

On Feb. 12, Lee announced plans to acquire Howard Publications and its 16 daily newspapers. Closing is expected within 90 days.

Lee is based in Davenport, Iowa. Its stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LEE. More information about Lee Enterprises is available at www.lee.net.

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