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REMARKS FOR PADNOS LUNCHEON - 10/17/90

When I think of good corporate citizens, I think of Padnos. When I think of progressive business people, I think of Padnos. When I think of people generous in spirit and generous with their wealth, I think of Padnos. When I think of people who have their priorities right, I think of Padnos. When I think about people whose company I enjoy, I think about Padnos.

Is it the character of the family forged by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Padnos that has made their enterprise so successful in the third generation, or was it the success of each generation that attracted and held family members together, gaining for them the respect that comes to a family who work so effectively in a family venture? Whatever the reasons, the result is inspiring and today we take note of that good citizenship, progressive thinking, and generosity. The project whose initiation we
celebrate today is a Padnos inspiration, and it brings together their company, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and our University in a collaboration that affects the way future generations of engineers are educated and the substantial reduction in industrial waste.

The spokesman for the Padnos family today is a person I have known since the 1940’s. As I was moving into adult years, I watched him succeed in business and become a leader in civic life. When I returned to Michigan, we became reacquainted and fell into a relationship similar to one that existed between his father and mine years ago in Holland, Michigan.

He is a good friend of mine, and fortunately for GVSU, a good friend of the University. He has helped move the University forward in many ways, and earned a place in the Grand Valley University Hall of Fame.