

## **Advantus Corp. acquires Mercury Luggage Manufacturing Company**

Jacksonville, FL (August 1, 2016) – Advantus Corp., a manufacturer of consumer, commercial, and durable goods, has acquired Mercury Luggage Manufacturing Company, a premier supplier of high quality luggage, sport and specialty bags, lockers and trunks for the military and retail product markets.

“Mercury Luggage has an excellent reputation in craftsmanship, quality and fair pricing. Their focus is centered on the customer. We look forward to continuing and building on this tradition to develop and deliver great products with great service to our current and new customers,” said Kevin Carpenter, President of Advantus.

Advantus Corp.’s rich product manufacturing history, with product lines dating back to 1913, perfectly complements Mercury Luggage and Seward Trunk’s legacy of manufacturing high quality luggage and trunks since 1878. With a shared belief in always putting customers first, both companies feel that this union will only serve to further strengthen their commitment to their customers.

“We couldn’t be happier with Mercury Luggage becoming a part of the Advantus family,” said Andy Pradella, president of Mercury Luggage. “I could not have found a better company and team, and I’m confident Advantus is the right company to best service our customers and their needs now and far into the future.”

Mercury Luggage and Seward Trunk Company will continue to operate out of their current facilities.

### **About Mercury**

Founded in 1946, Mercury Luggage Mfg. Co. is a privately owned corporation based in Jacksonville, Florida, with total domestic warehouse and manufacturing space exceeding 300,000 square feet. In 1998, Mercury acquired Seward Trunk Co. of Petersburg, VA which began business in 1878 and grew to be the largest domestic manufacturer of trunks and luggage in the United States. Mercury employs over 100 people in the United States and has a trading office in Taiwan. Mercury has established itself as a premier supplier of high quality luggage, sport bags, trunks and cases to major corporations, pro and college sports teams and top retail shops throughout the United States.

### **About Advantus Corp.**

With product lines whose histories stretch all the way back to 1913, Advantus Corp. is a diverse consumer products company comprised of four operating divisions, each of which contain a family of related businesses and product lines. From its 300,000 square feet of owned, domestic manufacturing and warehousing capacity and with over 100 manufacturing and distribution partners around the globe, Advantus manufactures and distributes over 5,000 active products to a diverse set of customers around the world.