



Gerald Rubin, founder of **Helen of Troy**, resigned as the \$1 billion-plus company's CEO and board chairman at the end of January. **Julien Mininberg**, a Yale graduate who previously led Helen of Troy's Healthcare/Home Environment division, succeeds him as CEO. **BIR** checked in with our long-time friend, Jerry, who told us, "I have decided to leave Helen of Troy after starting the company 46 years ago. I will still remain a large shareholder of the company. I would like to thank all of our customers over these years who believed in us.

"I am leaving the company in its best shape ever, with a market cap of \$1.8 billion. The employees of the professional division are the best in the country and will continue to serve their customers. **Art August** will continue as president of the professional division, and his team will remain in place.

"I would like to thank the 1,500 employees of Helen of Troy for their hard work and dedication in making it the company it is today. I could not have done it without them. I would also like to thank the **Harlan Kirschner** and **Gary Udell** organizations for their hard work and dedication for all of these years in building the **Hot Tools** brand. I appreciate all the friends I have made in the beauty field these 46 years. It has been a great ride."

Jerry will not be retiring, but will become CEO of his family's real estate company in El Paso, Texas. Reach him at jrubin@ropelpaso.com