



Central Minnesota Chapter - P. O. Box 457, St. Cloud, MN 56302 March, 2008
Visit us at: www.apicscmn.org

March Professional Development Meeting/Tour

Tuesday, March 4th, 2008

Please register for the March 4, 2008 PDM on-line
at our new website: www.apicscmn.org (see instructions below)

Buffer Management – The Control Mechanism for Synchronous Manufacturing

Presented by: Richard Bennett, partner with 3sixty solution llc.

Much has been written and discussed about the value and advantages of synchronized planning systems such as Drum Buffer Rope. But planning is only half the solution. An open loop system is inherently unstable, thus any viable production system must have a robust feedback and control mechanism. Buffer Management is the generic synchronous management solution used to control production and provide constant feedback to the synchronous planning process. Learn how Buffer Management:

- Provides real time prioritization of work orders (both make to order and make to stock) given the inevitable presence of Murphy on the shop floor.
- Signals the need to adjust a given buffer size (either time or inventory).
- Provides a mechanism to help determine where appropriate Lean or Six Sigma initiatives might be applied within the production process.

Rick will review the basics of Buffer Management and the requirements for initial implementation.

About the speaker:

Richard Bennett is a partner with 3sixty solution llc, an engineering firm specializing in operations and reliability solutions. Rick has over 20 years of operations management experience coupled with solid teaching background. He has management experience in a variety of environments serving consumer, defense and industrial markets. Rick has managed operational positions at Texas Instruments, Rosemount Measurement Division and Recovery Engineering. He is an adjunct instructor at both Metropolitan State University and Hamline University. He is certified by both APICS and the National Institute of Supply Chain Management.



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Tour and meeting at **New Flyer**

Since 1930, our commitment to innovation has made us the leader in the heavy-duty bus market in the US and Canada. We offer the broadest product line in the industry with alternative-fuel drive systems, electric trolleys, gasoline-electric and diesel-electric hybrid vehicles, as well as our proven and reliable diesel buses.

All of our facilities are ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and OHSAS 18001 certified, ensuring that we maintain exceptional standards of operational excellence so that we will consistently meet customer specifications and always deliver our product on time.

Once our product is delivered, our industry-leading parts and services organization is fully prepared to optimize the lifetime value of our customers' purchases by offering state-of-the-art training, comprehensive operator and service manuals, and a full line of quality parts all supported by the highest standards of customer service.

As the 21st Century unfolds, we will continue to innovate in technology, excel in production, and exceed the expectations of our customers.

New Flyer. Miles Ahead.

Agenda:

5:15 – 5:30 Registration

5:30 – 6:30 Tour New Flyer

6:30 – 8:00 Dinner & Speaker held at **New Flyer**

MENU: TBD

Cost:

Members and non-members \$25.00

Students \$10.00

Please make reservations by Noon, on Friday, February 29, 2008 ON-LINE at www.apicscmn.org. APICS is responsible for all meal reservations, including no-shows. Cancellations and no-shows received after Noon on February 29, 2008 will be billed.

New Website instructions:

When you visit the new website for the first time, be sure to update your profile information by clicking on the My Profile link in the lower left sidebar. This profile information will be used when you register for events, and as you attend events, will allow tracking of your Continuing Education Units to maintain your APICS Certification. You can view your CEU's anytime by clicking on the Recognition link and clicking My Continuing Education Units. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the content on the home page and try all the links to see what APICS and your local Chapter has to offer! Leave us any feedback you have at the link provided in the first paragraph, or with any of the Board members on the Board link. We would love to get feedback from you on what you would like to see and how we can improve the use of our new site. We look forward to hearing from you!

Officer's Corner

Professional Development Meetings

By Doris C. Illies, V.P. Programs

I would like to start my article by introducing myself to the membership of APICS. I am the Marketing/Work Development Manager at WACOSA. We provide people challenged by disabilities the opportunity to live and work in their community. I am responsible for securing contract work for our in-house work program. Primarily I work with operations and supply chain managers to identify work their business wouldn't be doing if someone else would do it for them, or on things they can outsource to make their employees/processes more efficient.

I am enjoying my first year on the board in my position as the V.P. Programs. Basically, my role is to plan the Professional Development Meetings (PDM). The other members of the board have helped me ease into my role. I would recommend serving on the APICS board to our membership! What a great way to learn more and give back.

So how do we pick the speakers and tour for the Professional Development Meetings? The answer is YOU!,... the membership. I get ideas from the PDM evaluation forms, members send me emails with ideas, and board members make suggestions. Do you have ideas for topics or speakers? Please send them to me at dillies@wacosa.org.

So, where have we been, what have we learned, and what about future PDM's?

September 2007 the topic was "What APICS Has to Offer" presented by APICS board members.

October 2007 was a tour of Spee-Dee Delivery Service Inc., with many thanks to Donald Weeres and his staff. Also thank you to the St. Augusta Legion Post 621 for a fantastic chicken dinner.

The November 2007 PDM presenter was Kent Kedl, General Manager of Technomic Asia speaking about "The Asian market, what the process of getting started and building your business there might look like now and in the future". We also had another great meal at the St. Augusta Legion Post 621.

December 2007 was planned for Michael's Restaurant with presenter Dr. Bruce H. Miles, CEO of Big River Consulting Group LLC, speaking on More Effective Development of Supervisory Staff, but due to weather needed to be cancelled.

January 2008, was a tour of Antioch/Creative Memories, with many thanks to Operations Manager Mark Lerud and APICS member Deb Eisenschenk for helping in the arrangements. Dr. Bruce H. Miles also agreed to do the presentation which was scheduled for December, with dinner catered by Mexican Village II.

February 2008 was a joint meeting with Tri-State Manufacturing with special thanks to Sandy Kashmark from TSM for helping to coordinate the meeting. Attendees had two tours, the first at Tastefully Simple with thanks to Jill Blashack and her staff for hosting us. The second tour was Donnelly Mfg., with thanks to APICS member Darla Brink for helping in the arrangements. Dinner was held at the Alexandria Holiday Inn with a presentation by Tom Murphy, RSM McGladrey on "Forging New Partnerships: How to Thrive in Today's Global Value Chain".

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On March 4, 2008 we will be at New Flyer for a tour and presentation on “Buffer Management: The Control Mechanism for Synchronous Management”, presented by Richard Burnett, 3sixty Solutions LLC. Thanks to APICS Acting President David Gerhardson for helping with the arrangements.

April 2008, location and presenter TBD

May 2008, location TBD, our presenter will be Dan Strike, 3M Manufacturing & Supply Chain Services, presenting on “Inventory Management in a Lean Environment”.

As you can see, it’s been busy!... I look forward to many more great facility tours and presenters. As mentioned above, please let me know what facilities/topics YOU the members would like for our PDM’s.

I will end this report with a Quote from my 94 year old grandmother.

Find time to Laugh, Sing or Dance Everyday.... life is short!

Company Coordinators

Company Coordinators serve as the liaison between their company and the APICS Chapter Board of Directors. They are the source of APICS information about the chapter’s educational offerings for their co-workers, and provide feedback to the chapter about the educational needs of their company’s management. This is a crucial link Between our chapter and the companies we serve.

3 M Alexandria Abrasives
DeZurik Water Controls
Gold’n N Plump
Hunt Technology
New Flyer
Redball LLC
Suttle Appartus
The Antioch Company
Trivirix
Rt Enterprises
Malco Tools

Andrew Pung
Sandy Machula
Darrell Watercott
Barb Hammer
David Gerhardson
Kim Benson
Sharon Haley
Deb Eisenshenk
Craig Kissinger
Marjorie LaTour
Val Peterson

Thinking about joining APICS?

APICS members can take advantage of discounts on exam fees, seminar and certification class fees, APICS bookstore items, certification self study materials, and more. As an APICS member you get a free subscription to the APICS magazine and access to the career center where you can search hundreds of career opportunities. There are many additional benefits, to find out more, check out the membership portion of APICS.org via the following website → <https://www.apics.org/Membership> or Contact your local CEMN VP-Membership Scott McLaughlin (see contact info in the board member section) to find out how you can become a member.

CEMN Educational Calendar

CPIM Certification Review Classes

Basics of Supply Chain Management

St. Cloud
Wednesdays (10 sessions – 6-9 pm)
Dates - Starts Wednesday Jan 30th
Instructor – Bruce Skalbeck
Location – New Flyer

Hutchinson
(10 sessions – 6-9 pm)
Dates: Starts mid February
Instructor – Barb Tessmer
Location – TBA

Alexandria
Mondays (10 sessions – 6-9 pm)
Dates - TBA
Instructor - TBA
Location - TBA

For more information:

www.apicscmn.org (“Education” page)
Contact Dave Gerhardson VP-Education

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