



P. O. Box 457, St. Cloud, MN 56302

December, 2009

Visit us at: www.apicscmn.org

Don't miss the December 1st Professional Development Meeting as we tour Master Mark Plastics – Paynesville Facility

About Master Mark Plastics

Did you know that when you recycle plastic, there is an 82% chance that the empty milk jug you threw this morning will be recycled and manufactured into similar, or perhaps, one of our products. From landscape edging to composite decking, everything we have to offer contains bits and pieces of recycled plastic. Hard to believe? Well, believe it or not, we are currently recycling over 1 billion plastic containers each year! This is because recycling has been our business since 1966. On behalf of our establishment, we would like to thank you for recycling. We would like to thank our dealers, distributors, builders, and retailers in North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia for making our name united with the term quality? Because of all your effort, you and your household or business have developed a strong connection with us and our two manufacturing plants located in Albany and Paynesville, Minnesota.

Master Mark Plastics has become a premier name in lawn, garden, and building supplies throughout the world due to the fact that we are one of the largest and most experienced recyclers of HDPE plastics. High Density PolyEthylene plastics, which include hefty weight materials like milk jugs, detergent containers, juice and soda bottles that do not easily disintegrate. Therefore, this garbage would last many many years in a landfill. Our recycling operation takes this plastic, grinds it up, sterilizes it, and treats it for further use in our lawn and garden products and composite decking materials.

Operations here also take recycled scrap wood from cabinet making shops, purify it, and grind it into sawdust. We combine a mixture of 50% recycled plastic and 50% recycled sawdust to form the ever popular composite Rhino Deck. Rhino Deck, the tough deck, was introduced in 1996 and since has been our most praised product. If you haven't already heard, composite decking quickly became popular from the use of two words - low maintenance! That's right; you never have to spend those already too short summer weekends staining your deck. At the most, Rhino deck only needs to be seasonally cleaned. Since all composite decks have their differences, give us a call, e-mail us, or stop and visit us at a trade show. We would be happy to let you in on the advantage of Rhino Deck.

Master Mark Plastics distinctively tailors our product packaging for minimal landfill impact. We are always looking at new ways to package for better shipment and faster moving merchandise at the store level. Therefore, we are fully EDI capable so we can take, invoice, and ship orders with unparalleled speed and accuracy. Products are shipped within days of your order confirmation. Be assured that we will continue to provide you with the best service, highest customer satisfaction, and finest quality products with every shipment.

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Throughout the years, we have received a wide range of recognition from organizations across America. We have earned numerous awards for services, products, and quality. We even became members of the National Association for Home Builders in 2001. But perhaps the accomplishment we are most proud of, came from the United Nations. It is the Environmental Programme Award which is given to organizations for their significant efforts to use recycled material.

Speaker: Dave Gerhardson, Central MN APICS Board VP of Education from New Flyer, will speak about CSCP certification, classes and testing

Schedule:

Cost:

Registration	5:15	Members	\$15.00
Tour	5:30	Non-members	\$25.00
		Students	\$10.00

After the tour, join us at Hilltop Restaurant, located at 28518 East State Hwy 55, Paynesville MN 56362

Chicken and Rib Buffet

Speaker 7:00

Wrap up 8:00

Please make reservations by Noon, on Friday, November 27th, 2009 on our website at www.apicscmn.org.

APICS is responsible for all meal reservations, including no-shows. Cancellations and no-shows received after noon on Monday November 30th will be billed.

Central MN Chapter's Education Calendar

CPIM Certification Review Classes

Hutchinson Class

Strategic Management of Resources

Date – Tuesdays (starts January 12th)

Instructor – Barb Tessmer, CPIM

Location – Hutchinson Technology, Inc.

St. Cloud Class

Master Planning of Resources

Date – Wednesdays (starting January 13th)

Instructor – Bruce Skalbeck CFPIM, CIRM, CSCP

Location – New Flyer

Strategic Management of Resource

Date – Thursdays (starting January 14th)

Instructor – Bruce Skalbeck CFPIM, CIRM, CSCP

Location – New Flyer

For more information and to register for classes visit:

www.apicscmn.org (“Calendar of Events” page)

or Contact Dave Gerhardson VP-Education at VPEducation@apicscmn.org

Officer's Corner

By Dave Gerhardson – VP of Education

Who can benefit from the APICS CSCP Program?

The APICS CSCP designation is for professionals who are interested in increasing their knowledge and expertise in the field of supply chain management. This designation is ideal for you and your organization if you are

- Interested in more depth of knowledge and understanding in the areas of supplier and customer relations, international trade, the use of information technology to enable the supply chain, and physical logistics
- A professional who is consulting or teaching supply chain functions
- Employed in the field of supply chain management
- Working with enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems
- An employer wanting to create a common standard of understanding, vocabulary, resources, and frameworks within your company to address your supply chain challenges and opportunities.
- An employer or manager wanting to create a common standard of competency across your organization
- A CPIM needing certification maintenance points. Earn 50+ professional development points toward CPIM certification maintenance through the Learning System and APICS CSCP certification exam.

The APICS CSCP will help you advance your career while giving you the foundation to improve your company's competitive position and profitability.

THE UN-COMFORT ZONE with Robert Wilson

The Examined Life

“Hola!”

“Hola. ¿Qué tal?”

“Bien. ¿y tu?”

“Bien.”

Paul and I were sixteen years old and had taken high school Spanish for a year. We called each other every night on the phone and spoke to each other in our new language. More than anything we wanted to test our skill with a real Spanish speaking person, but we did not know any. Then we got the idea to have dinner at a Mexican restaurant. For two boys who had never dined out without their parents, this was a big adventure. We were so motivated that when we made reservations, we asked to be seated with a waiter who could not speak English.

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What motivated us? Knowledge. We made the same discovery that led Sir Francis Bacon to make his famous quote in 1597, “Knowledge is power.” We were empowered by what we had learned, and it gave us the confidence to take a risk we would never have taken before.

By the end of dinner we found out we didn’t know nearly as much as we thought we did, but the important thing was that our knowledge, albeit meager, moved us to action.

It is the same reason that we find seminars and lectures so motivating -- because we acquire new insights in a relatively brief period of time that we can act on right away. If the information is good, we can’t wait to put it to work making our lives better and our jobs easier.

Knowledge also motivates us because it enables us to be more inventive. Many new innovations are the result of two or more existing ideas synthesized into a new one. Creative thinkers regularly expose themselves to new learning experiences, and to different viewpoints. With each new experience, they create new synapses – electrical connections between the nerve cells – in their brains. This gives them more data to draw from when they are looking for solutions.

My son recently asked me why his school required him to learn to play a musical instrument. I explained to him that it was stimulating parts of his brain he would not have used otherwise. I told him that even if he chose not to continue playing the instrument as an adult, that the knowledge he acquired today may serve him in the future in some way that is presently unknown to him.

Innovators are known for their ability to think outside of the box, but more than anything it is their broad-based knowledge that gives them the courage to challenge accepted beliefs. The most successful innovators are those who make the acquisition of knowledge part of their lifestyle.

Greek philosopher Socrates fully understood that learning is a lifelong process. When he was found guilty of teaching his students to question authority, he was given a choice of punishment: death or exile. He chose death, stating, “The unexamined life is not worth living.”

Knowledge, however, is more than just the accumulation of information. It has to be used, applied, and manipulated in some fashion. Automobile manufacturing innovator, Henry Ford, illustrated this point during a civil trial in which he sued a Chicago newspaper for libel. The paper had referred to him as an “ignorant pacifist.” At the trial, the defendant’s lawyer asked Ford a series of questions designed to prove that he was indeed ignorant. Questions such as “When was the American Revolutionary War?” and “How many soldiers did the British employ?”

Eventually Ford became irritated by the questions and remarked, “I can summon to my aid men who can answer any question I desire to ask concerning the business to which I am devoting most of my efforts. Why should I clutter up my mind with general knowledge.”

Seek out knowledge that empowers you, and let it give you the confidence and courage to be more and do more.

Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is a motivational speaker and humorist. He works with companies that want to be more competitive and with people who want to think like innovators. For more information on Robert's programs please visit www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com.

Welcome new members

Peter Mitchell	Beckman Coulter, Inc.	Jason Schulz	Nahan Printing
David Nelson	Student	Chad Garlock	Student
Joseph Schneiderhan	Student	Dan Thell	Student
Erik Greven	Student		

Central Minnesota APICS Board of Directors

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