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## Message from the President

On behalf of the entire Fraser Valley Board – welcome back for our 2007 / 2008 events season. We hope that all of you were able to enjoy the few days of summer that we seemed to have here on the Wet Coast. We have a full slate of dinner meetings, courses and workshops lined up for this season and are looking forward to a very eventful year.

Over the summer the Board has been busy preparing for the year. A brief overview of what we have been working on includes:

- submitting the Chapter Minimum Standards report for the 2006 / 2007 season
- sending out an on-line Programs and Events survey for your input to help us plan the events for the year
- arranging for two CPIM courses to be held at the Abbotsford UCFV campus starting in September
- lining up guest speakers for our three Fall dinner meetings
- gearing up for the Lean workshops which will start in October
- working with the Vancouver Chapter on resource sharing and future education and programs offerings
- finalizing a budget to cover the growth we expect to see this year
- upgrading our web page services to better meet your needs

We are expecting our Chapter to continue to grow this year (we are up to 64 members from the 55 we had at this time last year – a 16% growth in size) and we will be continuing with membership recognition activities such as the 5 / 10 / 15 / 20 “Years Of Service” pins which we started to award last season (if you missed your pin last year – just show up at a dinner meeting this year and we will award it to you).

From my perspective as the Chapter President, we are geared up and ready to roll – so come along with us on what should be a fun filled and interesting ride again this year.

See you at our September dinner meeting.

Richard Ranftl (CPIM)



## Dinner Meetings and Workshops

Although we normally hold our meetings on Wednesday evenings, to accommodate the schedule of our guest speaker, we will be kicking off our events season on Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> as we welcome back Curtis Robert (who many of you will know from his guest speaking appearance a few years ago or from having him as an instructor in a CPIM course). For those of you who do not know Curtis, be prepared for the unexpected as he is well known for his creative approach to the APICS body of knowledge which, coupled with his absolutely unique sense of humor and wealth of experience, has the potential to turn this event into a very memorable evening.

### Scheduled Upcoming events:

Date	Event	Presentation	Speaker
Thursday September 20	Dinner Meeting	Going Lean in an ERP World	Curtis Roberts (CPIM)
Wednesday October 24	Dinner Meeting	Bringing TOC and Lean Together	Steve Jackson (CFPIM)
Late October (TBD)	½ day workshop	Introduction to Lean Manufacturing	
Wednesday November 21	Dinner Meeting	Hiring in our Job Market	Doris Bentley (CHRP)
Thursday November 29	Full Day Workshop	Love ‘Em or Lose ‘Em: Retaining and Engaging Key Talent	Doris Bentley (CHRP)
Late November (TDB)	½ day workshop	Lean Teams	

### From the APICS dictionary....

**Tracking** - In activity based cost accounting, connecting resources to activities to cost objects using underlying causal drivers to understand how costs occur during normal business activities.

**ERP** – abbreviation for enterprise resource planning

**BOM** – abbreviation for bill of material

**Item number** – a number that servers to uniquely identify an item.

**Active inventory** – the raw materials, work in process, and finished goods that will be used or sold in a given period

### September Dinner Meeting

*“ERP and Lean: A Marriage Made in Hellven”*

So your company has a nice new fancy ERP system, and the President just announced that first thing tomorrow morning the company will embark on a journey to Lean. She also mentions, off-handedly, that **you** will be responsible for coordinating the related projects.

Or...your company has been on a journey to Lean for the past couple of years, and you are making some good progress. You have set up kanbans, you have a 5S program up and running, you have implemented VMI, and you have convinced the Controller that your shop people don't have to fill in detailed job timesheets. You are well into mapping the value stream, and you have big plans for the next steps. Then management dictates that the new corporate ERP system will be rolled out to all companies in the corporation – and that **you** are in charge of the project for your site.

Do you panic? Of course you do. But when your heart rate returns to normal, you start to look for the positives, and start to identify the things to avoid...

### Speaker Bio

Curtis Roberts, CPIM, has worked as an Industrial Engineering Technologist, Scheduler, Master Scheduler, Planning Manager, Materials Manager, Operations Manager, Business Systems Analyst, and Business Systems Consultant. For the past number of years he has worked helping companies implement ERP systems in a variety of industries and business environments.

In addition to his ERP and Operations consulting duties, he continues to teach APICS courses for the Vancouver chapter, where he has been teaching (and learning) for seven years. Every semester, one of his student evaluation forms comes back with the comment “I love his sense of humor”, and one comes back with “I wish he would stop telling those stupid jokes”. As a result, he has had to learn to live with confusion.

**September Dinner Meeting .....**

The meeting will be held at Newlands Golf and Country Club, our usual location. Signs will be posted in the lobby to direct you to the correct room.

Date: Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 Time: Registration / Cash Bar 5:30  
 Salmon Buffet 6:15  
 Presentation 7:00

Place: Newlands Golf and Country Club  
 21025 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Langley

Cost: Members: \$30  
 Non Members \$40  
 Students: \$20

**Register:**

The website registration will send a pdf file of your registration. (<http://www.apics-fraservalley.org/content.php?id=75>)  
 If you do not have a default e-mail system installed please contact our Director of Programs at [programs@apics-fraservalley.org](mailto:programs@apics-fraservalley.org). Please provide your Name, Company, Phone Number and membership category.

Please register prior to Tuesday September 18<sup>th</sup> to ensure that you have a reserved seat.

**How to get there?**



**Upcoming Workshops**

Last year's Inventory Control Workshops were an outstanding success thanks to Fastik Label & Supply for providing a great facility and Jason Young for his instruction. The feedback from the education survey in the spring told us that professionals of the Fraser Valley would like to see more offerings in the area of Lean Manufacturing. Ask and you shall receive!

Beginning in October, a series of 7 Lean Manufacturing workshops will be held in the Langley area for those interested in learning some new techniques for use in the workplace, or simply as a refresher.

The 7 workshops to be offered (in order of schedule):

- Introduction to Lean Manufacturing
- Lean Teams, Lean Design & Accounting
- Lean Mapping
- 5's (Sort, Set In Order, Shine, Standardize & Sustain)
- Process Improvement & Quality in Lean Manufacturing
- Lean Scheduling
- Standard Work

We are once again looking for hosting facilities, as well as any interested instructors that feel they would like to share some intimate knowledge in any of the specific workshop areas.

For more information, or if you are interested in hosting/instructing please e-mail [education@apics-fraservalley.org](mailto:education@apics-fraservalley.org)

## Special Event Notice:

In our May newsletter, we let you know about a rare opportunity to attend a workshop hosted by Rod Gelhorn and Steve Jackson, two of Canada's leading experts on the Theory Of Constraints. Several of you were able to register for those workshops before they filled up. For those of you who were unable to fit them into your calendar in May, Rod and Steve will have one final offering of the two-day TOC workshop in October.

### Theory of Constraints Workshop:

This workshop is aimed directly at small- to medium-sized manufacturers wanting fast, direct and typically massive performance improvement in a form that boosts competitiveness, the bottom line and cash flow in the shortest possible time. In many cases, that means results like these in as little as 90 to 120 days:

- On-time delivery close to 100% (very high 90's)
- Lead times reduced 50% to 70%
- Inventories reduced (especially WIP, Finished Goods) up to 50%
- Productivity increased 20% to 40% (Literally, more shipped from the same resources)

Innovative sales and marketing strategies are also available to help convert the improvements to increased sales (without cutting prices).

TOC users typically achieve initial results of this scale with only a fraction of the effort associated with (for example) a full implementation of Lean manufacturing. However, companies with Lean or Six Sigma practices already in-house (or planned) can deploy TOC along with those technologies to seriously accelerate and magnify the ROI of their investment.

For example, in a recent 2-year experiment across 21 plants, the 6 plants using Lean and Six Sigma *inside a Theory of Constraints implementation* recorded 89% of the total cost savings recorded across all the plants. The 4 plants using Lean alone ... 4%. The 11 plants using Six Sigma alone ... 7%. The article was published in the May 2006 APICS magazine. The factors that make such a difference will be on display in this workshop.

The workshop covers a LOT of ground – in addition to coming up with a rock-solid plant schedule and new rules for managing production, we cover issues of synchronizing sales, marketing, engineering, distribution and supply chain management so that EVERYONE is on the same page when it comes to sales and profit growth. And the whole session is built on a foundation of new measurements that challenge many of management's sacred cows. (These measurements are now taught to newly qualifying Management Accountants).

The workshop will be held at the Best Western Coquitlam Inn on North Road, Coquitlam, October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

For complete information on the workshop contents, pricing and registration process, please go to: [www.synchronix.com](http://www.synchronix.com) or contact Steve Jackson directly at 604-688-3253.

### Web Page Update

During the last year we ran into difficulties with our existing level of web service and were not able to keep up with the growth of our Chapter. As we write this newsletter, we are in the process of upgrading the web page to be able to better meet your needs. Please bear with us in the next few weeks if you experience difficulty accessing the web page as it is in transition. Added features we will be developing on our web page include:

- a new Chapter Calendar to show all chapter events, (dinner meetings, workshops, class schedules) in one central location
- expanded storage space in our Programs section to be able to archive and post presentation from guest speakers
- a chapter history section with archives of milestone events in our Chapter's history
- expanded capabilities to allow additional career postings
- a bulletin board service to enhance networking and the exchange of ideas among our membership
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As always, should you have any suggestions as to how we can further enhance our web page or communications media for you, please let our Director of Communications, Ilona Pretorius know.

## UCFV Registration now Open.

Please see [http://www.ucfv.ca/Continuing\\_Studies/Courses/Career\\_Job\\_Training.htm](http://www.ucfv.ca/Continuing_Studies/Courses/Career_Job_Training.htm) for registration and course outline. Courses begin the week of September 24th, 2007. Both Basics of Supply Chain Management & Master Planning of Resources are offered this term.