

## Content

**1 Message from the President**

**2 Schedule for Upcoming Events**

**2 Summer Help**

**2 APICS Dictionary**

**3 February PDM**

**4 20 Year Pin**

**4 Industry Focus**

**4 TOC Workshop**

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## Message from the President

2008 is off and running. It's hard to believe that one month is already gone (time flies is definitely an understatement). For many of our organization 2008 is starting as a pressure packed continuation of how 2007 ended. We are very busy, struggling to keep up with a booming local economy, trying to staff up to keep up, and building product like crazy. For those of you living this life, we hope to be able to provide with a few tools to ease your pains.

Our February dinner meeting will feature Mark Bukata of Response Biomedical who will be profiling traditional "push" based production to the "pull" systems many companies have benefitted from. Part of this session will be a hands-on simulation of push versus pull so that you can "feel" the difference. If you have been searching for a tool to help you educate your organization on how Just In Time systems work, then this may very well give you what you were looking for. For more information, please check out our Programs section.

For those of you who are struggling trying to fill management positions you may want to participate in the BCIT Career Fair which is coming up in March. This annual event is conducted at the BCIT Burnaby campus and allows your organization to market itself to hundreds of upcoming graduates from one of the top technical institutions in the country. For more information about how your organization can become involved, please check out the BCIT web page ([www.bcit.ca/ses/](http://www.bcit.ca/ses/)) and click on the careers fair link.

Richard Ranftl (CPIM)  
 President – APICS Fraser Valley Chapter



## Dinner Meetings and Workshops

We normally hold our meetings on Wednesday evenings, but do move this from time to time to accommodate the schedule of our guest speakers. The following events are “firm planned” more events will be added to the schedule as they are confirmed

### Scheduled Upcoming events:

Date	Event	Presentation	Speaker
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Dinner Meeting	Traditional vs J.I.T Principles	Mark Bukata (CPIM)
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Dinner Meeting	Six Sigma Overview	Vladimir Kajdan (Ph.D.)
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	AGM & Dinner Meeting	Lean in a Hi-Mix, Low-Volume World	Bob Adams

*Now available in Canada –* The Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters association is offering a series of courses and workshops to enable Lean practitioners to achieve their SME Bronze Lean Certification. They have partnered with the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and will be running the certification courses starting in mid February. If you are interested in finding out more about the courses please check out the SME web page at [www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org) then follow the links to certification courses or you can call Leigh-Anne Cameron the local area facilitator at 604-970-2169.

### Interested in some Summer help?

If your organization traditionally struggles with covering key roles during the summer holiday season then trying to do it this summer (considering many of you are already short-handed) will be especially challenging. Why not consider hiring a BCIT Operations Management student to help you over those busy times. I am very fortunate to be teaching two courses to the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Operations Management students at BCIT (it’s a two year program). I am fortunate because they are an extremely talented and motivated group of people who will be a great addition to any organization looking for top flight help. If you need two or three months assistance in an operations related area (inventory management, production planning, process improvement, ...) why not get the help you need? The current school year finishes at the end of May so the students would be available from June through August – exactly the time when many of you need that extra set of hands (and a fresh and energetic outlook on what your organization is doing).

If you are interested in finding out more, or in speaking with some of the students, please drop me a line at [Richard\\_Ranftl@bcit.ca](mailto:Richard_Ranftl@bcit.ca) or give me a call at 604-451-6750, I would be more than happy to “hook you up”.

Free to APICS Members:

#### **APICS Dictionary, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition** Now Available

APICS is pleased to announce the publication of one of the most widely recognized resources in the Operations Management profession – *The APICS Dictionary*. It is the standard for defining terms used in the operations management field, and this 12<sup>th</sup> edition contains more than 4,000 important terms that every operations manager should know. This first new edition in three years features 600 new terms and definitions reflecting the latest trends and mandates in the field.

Your complimentary copy of this internationally recognized educational tool is a member benefit that will help you stay knowledgeable and competitive. Request your copy today at [www.apics.org/freedictionary](http://www.apics.org/freedictionary). Non-members may purchase a copy through the APICS on-line bookstore at [www.apics.org/bookstore](http://www.apics.org/bookstore).

Registration is now open., for more information please see the UCFV website:  
[http://www.ucfv.ca/Continuing\\_Studies/Courses/Employment\\_Training.htm](http://www.ucfv.ca/Continuing_Studies/Courses/Employment_Training.htm)

**February Dinner Meeting**

**Traditional vs J.I.T. Principles**

*“Push versus Pull Production”*

Presented by: Mark Bukata (CPIM)

In a traditional manufacturing system, the shop layout is often in the form of a general job shop or process layout where similar machines are grouped by function. As a consequence, a lot of time is spent moving product to where it needs to be worked on leading to long lead times and high levels of work-in-process. Manufacturing lot sizes are usually large in order to compensate for long set-up times which leads to even more inventory clogging up the plant, which creates even longer lead times and a lack of flexibility to respond to shifts in customer demands.

Coupled with the shop floor issues, a traditional system also has communication issues as most of the information flows in one direction only and usually flows from the customer to marketing, then to manufacturing and then on to the distribution chain.

In contrast J.I.T systems feature shop floor layouts which are organized in a manner designed to ease the manufacture of groups of products and often use tightly grouped manufacturing cells. This enables the production of smaller lot sizes, less inventory on the shop floor, faster product throughput and increased demand responsiveness.

In contrast to the flow of information in a traditional system, in a J.I.T. system, information flows in two directions through each link in the chain. As information flows up through the chain it triggers the pull of product down through the chain enabling faster and more accurate feedback on materials requirements and customer orders.

In this presentation we will cover:

- Traditional versus J.I.T. manufacturing concepts
- A hands-on simulation of the improvements possible in a J.I.T. system

**Speaker Bio**

Mark Bukata is the Supply Chain Manager for Response Biomedical Corporation in Burnaby. He is one of the top APICS Instructors in Western Canada and has been teaching the APICS CPIM certification courses at BCIT for many years. He also is a past-director of the Vancouver APICS Chapter in which he performed a number of roles. Previous to his role with Response Biomedical. Mark worked in organizations such as General Motors, Teleflex, Hain Celestial Canada, and Kodak (Creo).

**Event Detail**

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: Wednesday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
 Time: Registration / Cash Bar 5:30  
 Lasagna 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.

**How to get there?**



Please register by Monday February 18<sup>th</sup> to ensure that you have a reserved seat.

## 20 Year Pin Awarded in November

At our November 2007 dinner meeting, we were very pleased to be able to award Ron Toth (CPIM) his “**20 Year Pin**” in recognition of his 20 years of membership with APICS. Ron first joined APICS back in February 1984, and has been a loyal supporter of APICS since then including volunteering his services for many years as a member of the APICS Vancouver Board of Directors. Ron currently works with Garaventa Lift of Surrey. Thanks Ron for all of your work over the years to make APICS as successful as it is in the Lower Mainland.



### Industry Focus:

Our thanks to members that have provided the following background on Industry in our region.

#### About Ledalite

Ledalite Architectural Products creates lighting products and technologies for commercial and institutional markets across North America, South America and Europe. The company is committed to providing energy-efficient lighting solutions that benefit the environment while offering maximum visual comfort for the people who use them. Founded in 1982, Ledalite is a division of the Genlyte Group of companies and is ISO 9001 certified.

Ledalite employs a passionate, highly-experienced team of professionals, many of whom work in our 210,000-square-foot state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. We are a Lean-certified manufacturer and adhere to World Class Manufacturing (WCM) principles as well as rigorous environmental standards.

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### TOC Workshop

Date: March 12 / 13  
 Event: Workshop  
 Presentation: Theory of Constraints  
 Speaker: Steve Jackson (CFPIM)

For more information regarding the TOC workshop, please check [www.synchronix.com](http://www.synchronix.com).