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Message from the President

Fall is upon us and all of the spooky monsters are crawling out from the shadows. I am of course referring to such beasties as annual inventory counts, seasonal production either crashing after the busy summer or ramping up to insanity for the holiday season.

No matter how hard we try throwing candy at the problems they never seem to go away and silver bullets are woefully out of stock and back ordered straight through until the New Year.

Luckily September has started with a bang for APICS Fraser Valley and we are giving treats of knowledge to help our organizations find other ways to banish the gremlins.

We have over thirty students enrolled in CPIM courses this term and our programs schedule is nearly finished for the entire year. We had great attendance at our September event with Steve Jackson taking us through Theory of Constraints to rave reviews.

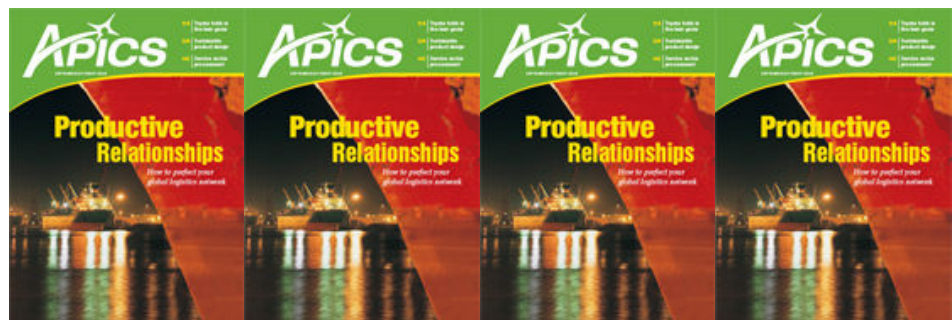
After many long years of being a chapter member, and board member, we have finally managed to persuade Richard Ranftl to be a speaker at a PDM. He shall be taking us through process improvement which are words often tossed around companies but Richard is someone who has gone through it time and again. Having both the theoretical knowledge and the hands on experience he is able to give a lot of insight into what works and what does not.

Still not enough fire power to exorcise that non-conformance list?

With our year nearly planned out the board is now looking towards what other events we can squeeze in. There is talk about putting on a workshop or two this year. Imagine being able to stretch a topic into a half day or even a whole day to explore in depth with our speakers. Now would be the time for you to let us know what PDMs you have attended that were far too short and you wish you could spend more time on. We shall be discussing your ideas at our next board meeting which of course as a member you are welcome to attend if you wish to be on hand to champion your topic.

Look forward to seeing you at the October PDM!

Jason Young
 President
 APICS Fraser Valley Chapter



Dinner Meetings and Workshops

We normally hold our meetings on Wednesday evenings, and will be kicking off our events season on September 24th as we welcome Steve Jackson as our Guest Speaker.

Scheduled Upcoming events:

| Date | Event | Presentation | Speaker |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| September to December (Thursday's) | CPIM Course – Hosted at IMW | MRP (Master Planning of Resources) | |
| September to December (Tuesday's) | CPIM Course – Hosted at Freybe | Basics of Supply Chain Management | |
| October 22 nd | Dinner Meeting | Process Mapping | Richard Ranftl, CPIM |
| November 26 th | Dinner Meeting | Peace Begins With Me | Ted Kuntz |
| February 22 nd | Dinner Meeting | Local Success stories in "5 S" | |
| March 25 th | Dinner Meeting | Improving ERP systems | Brett Mewett |
| April 22 nd | AGM and Dinner Meeting | --- to be announced --- | |

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 serves to uniquely identify an item.

October Dinner Meeting - Improving Business Productivity

"Removing the Waste from Processes"

Whether you are in a manufacturing, service, government or a not-for-profit organization, productivity (how much you can accomplish with the resources you have) is directly related to how "lean" your processes are. Lean processes can result in faster response time (improving customer service), lowering costs (increasing profits), greater flexibility and fewer opportunities for error (quality improvements).

This presentation will cover the need for organizational change, how to get started, how to apply a team based process mapping approach to document what is currently taking place, and using Value Analysis and Cycle Time Reduction to find and deal with waste in the process. With a mix of discussion and hands-on activities, you will be able to go back to work the next day and start to make a difference.

Speaker Bio

Richard Ranftl has over twenty years of experience in various operations management roles and now teaches at BCIT in the School of Business. In addition to instructing at BCIT he owns and operates a consulting business based on improving business processes whether they are on the shop floor or administrative. Richard has been a long time member of APICS as a student, an instructor, a Board member and is currently the Past-President of the APICS Fraser Valley Chapter.

October 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: October 22nd, 2008
 Time: Registration / Cash Bar 5:30
 Meat / Vegetarian Lasagna 6:15
 Presentation 7:00

Place: Newlands Golf and Country Club
 21025 48th Avenue, Langley

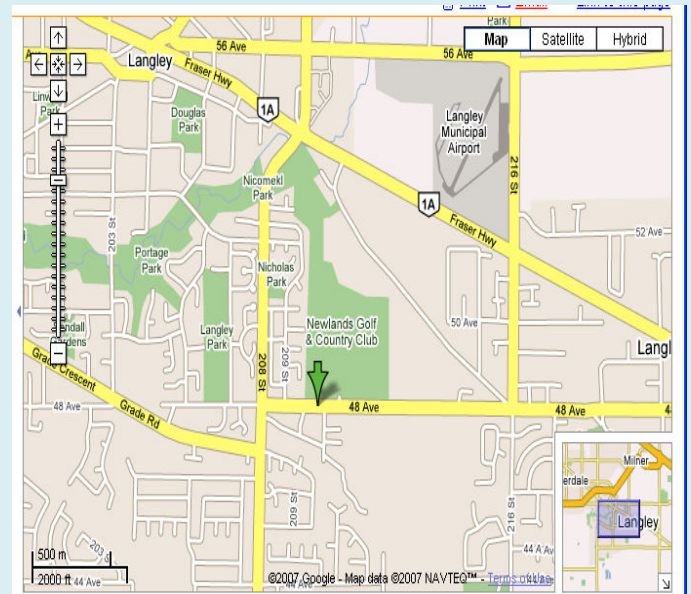
Cost: Members: \$30
 Non Members \$45
 Students: \$20

Register:

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

Please register prior to Monday October 20th to ensure that you have a reserved seat.

How to get there?



Fall 2008 Education

Basics of Supply Chain Management

When: Tuesday Evenings
Where: Freybe Gourmet Foods (Aldergrove)

Explore the basic concepts in managing the flow of materials in a supply chain. In the Basics, you get a complete overview of material flow, from internal and external suppliers to and from your organization.

Master Planning of Resources

When: Thursday Evenings
Where: IMW Industries (Chilliwack)

Explore the processes used to develop sales and operations plans and identify and assess internal and external demand and forecasting requirements. The course focuses on the importance of producing achievable master schedules that are consistent with business policies, objectives, and resource constraints.

For more information on these courses please contact the Education Director education@apics-fraservalley.org

Review of September PDM:

The September event was both well attended and well received with attendance approaching fifty members and non-members, APICS veterans, and those new to the experience.

A number of special guests were attendance including a number of students from BCIT.

The presentation started with a discussion of theories. We accept as part of our world several rules which include how we do not float away in the morning on our way to work due to flaky gravity. It is a belief that has been tested and accepted. Thankfully.

Many companies believe that in order to be efficient every part of that company must be efficient. No matter what, we have to make sure we never waste time or energy anywhere at any time.

Steve commented that leaders can actually do harm through body language such as a simple leaning on their tip toes while regarding idle personnel. Never again will that person be seen idle even if it results in them creating more waste and inefficiency then if they had remained idle.

So not all of our beliefs are correct.

Steve Jackson proceeded to explain to us how those beliefs can be challenged by Theory of Constraints (TOC).

He showed us that out of 21 companies 89% of all benefits were derived from TOC implementation from only 6 of the companies compared to Lean or Six sigma endeavors throughout.

After finding their constraint it has been seen that, 20-40% extra capacity can be found just by creating a non-negotiable schedule based on that constraint. These schedules do not need to be complex they can be as simple as a spread sheet which says what to do and when to do it.

We moved on into buffers to support that schedule with the overall message one that we do not need to stay busy, we can accept localized waste as long as it helps the organization over all.

The presentation left the audience with more questions than we had time to answer and Steve spent much time with the various tables long after the PDM ended explaining concepts in more detail.

The event was a great start to the year!



Member of the Year Award

The Corporate Member of the Year Award was received by Lori Meyer on behalf of Freybe Gourmet Foods Ltd. The award was made to Freybe in appreciation of allowing regular board meetings to be held at the location, and for hosting the May 2008 plant tour.

The Professional Member of the Year Award was made to Daljit Bhandal, he has been a regular attendant at the PDM meetings; and is always willing to lend a hand to the board.



Member Feedback

Our thanks to everyone that took part in the online questionnaire that was issued before the summer break. This allows the board to get an update on what the subjects of interest are for the PDM's and give us the needed feedback on how the presentations meet your needs.

The coveted APICS travel mug will be presented to Heather Murray whose name was drawn from the respondents.

