

Apex Design Technology “The BUZZ”

GOOD PAINT JOB!

Our customer’s Source Inspector was very impressed with the quality of the paint work and said, "Whoever painted that tool did an excellent job". Thanks to **Jose Sanchez** for doing an excellent job painting this tool. Appearances mean a lot and your attention to detail did not go unnoticed. **Thank You!**

APEX’ 11th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Apex’ 11th Anniversary was celebrated on January 23rd by having an all employee lunch of pizza, cake and ice cream. The following 2005 awards, recognizing continuing service and achievements, were presented by Glenn Martin, Dave Reiniger and Todd Gallagher.

Five Years of Service Awards

Presented to: Alberto Garcia, Carolyn Nelipovich, Cruz Palomares, Duane Mertan, John Belote, Rick Ulmer and Thanh Nguyen.



Ten Years of Service Awards

Presented to: Blaine Dome, Ed Michioka, Marty Barnett, Ralph Wilkinson, and Steve Gomez.



Appreciation of Dedication Award

Presented to: Bob Jeppesen

Perfect Attendance Awards

Presented to: Alfonso Flores, Arturo Salinas, Billy Harlow (AL), Bonny Cuevas, Cruz Palomares, Gary Goldner, Hans Pfeffer, Larry Yip, Manuel Solorzano, Neri Bojorquez, Peter Gale, Phil Hoang, Raymond Schmidt, Terry Smith, Thanh Nguyen and Vu Nguyen



Customer Appreciation Award

Presented to: Boeing Airlift and Tankers

Top Salesman of the Year Award

Presented to: Terry Smith



ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

Steve Neely has been promoted to **Vice President, Operations**. He will be responsible for meeting our production schedule and all delivery requirements. The entire manufacturing and operations organization will report to him.

Dave Reiniger will become **Vice President, Special Operations**, effective immediately. Dave will manage all our offsite installations and projects from a technical and schedule basis, and will work with our customers to make certain we meet their requirements. He will be responsible for the management of the Decatur facility. Dave will also continue to provide technical support to our manufacturing organization.

Quality Corner: So, What is a Six Sigma Black Belt?

Six Sigma is a program, invented by Motorola, and made famous by General Electric, to improve manufacturing and business processes to a point of perfection so that error rates are less than 3.4 defects per million opportunities. The Six Sigma process is a statistically oriented set of methods to accomplish these goals. All problems and solutions must be expressed mathematically and statistically verified. For example, the tools needed to reduce error rates in a bank are very different from those to improve a manufacturing organization. Classic applications range from low first pass yield rates to late deliveries or excessive cost problems. The Black Belt certification represents approximately 18 months of dedicated effort to achieve, and is granted to a person – not a company. Black Belts are then used by companies to head teams of people to solve problems and increase efficiency. There are other lower levels of certification, such as Green Belts.

Glenn Martin (CEO) has earned his Six Sigma Black Belt.

RealAge BENEFIT ARTICLE - A SEED OF TRUTH

Snacking on protein-rich sunflower seeds may help lower your blood pressure.

Recent research shows that a diet with ample amounts of vegetable protein, such as the protein found in sunflower seeds, may help keep blood pressure down. A diet high in animal protein offered no such benefit in the study. Stock up on sunflower seeds, cashews, and kidney beans to get your fill of blood pressure-lowering veggie protein.

RealAge Benefit: Keeping your blood pressure at 115/76 mm Hg can make your RealAge as much as 12 years younger.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 nd	Chien Tran
4 th	Roger Lands
5 th	Chuck Krugh (AL)
7 th	Blaine Dome
14 th	Kamol Kosol
15 th	Duane Mertan
16 th	Ralph Wilkinson
18 th	Mike Chieffo
20 th	Glenn Martin
24 th	Gary Goldner
28 th	Howard Tien

FEBRUARY APEX-ANNIVERSARIES

Tom Duong	11 th
Sam Yanto	11 th
Terry Smith	11 th
Ralph Wilkinson	10 th
Raymond Schmidt	6 th
Veronica Gutierrez	1 st
Fernando Ortiz	1 st

NOTES FROM HR

Congratulations to **Phil Hoang** and **Robert Godby**. Both of them received a **Certificate of Achievement** for successfully completing a sixteen week course of intensive **Advanced Mastercam** training to enhance their professional career in the metalworking industry. And to **Armando Naranjo** for receiving a **Certificate of Achievement** from NTMA for successfully completing a sixteen week course of intensive **Basic Mastercam** training.

Congratulations also go out to **Thanh Nguyen** and **Mike Cangj** for attending sixteen weeks of **CWI Training** and attaining the level of **Associate Certified Weld Inspector**. **Good job!!!**

Recently, Apex received a thank you letter from the **American Red Cross** for our gift of \$1,650.00 on November 22, 2005, in support of the American Red Cross relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina. Thanks again to all of you that participated. If you would like to have a copy of the letter please see Carolina in the H R Dept.

Direct Deposit is now available through HR. Please see Carolina and remember to take a voided check with you for her to keep on file.

DATES TO REMEMBER: Valentine's Day - Tuesday, February 14th.

