



Apex Design Technology November Buzz

“Good Job Apex!”

Those were the words voiced by the Program Management people regarding our role leading up to the successful testing of the 1st Decoupler. Tests have already begun on the second Decoupler. Both units are to ship next week. Special thanks to Peter Pineda who has been the Chief Mechanic on this job from the beginning and has put in some long days, and sacrificed most Saturdays in support of our customer's schedule. Special thanks also to Yiu Ming Yuen for his computer expertise. Ming has been the High Speed Camera Operator/Data Gatherer and has also worked extended hours and weekends.

And, the monthly "Working Together As A Team" Award goes to . . .

Apex doesn't have such an award - but if we did, last month's award would have to go to

Steve Gomez, Supervisor of our Machine Shop and Rich Stiller, QE/CMM Operator. They have been working together on the best approach to orient and inspect any parts requiring NC programming and CMM inspection. Team work saves time, improves communication and prevents defects. Congratulations on getting the award you would get if we gave such an award.

Trade Shows

Blaine Dome manned Apex' Booth at the 3rd Annual Inland Empire Engineering Show & Conference, held October 27th & 28th at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, California.

Blaine said that there was a very good turnout and that he was approached by several businesses who want to team with Apex in the future.

Upcoming Event

November 30th – December 1st

Apex team members hope to attend the "Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce Aerospace Industry Committee (AIC) 2nd Annual Requirements Symposium in Perry, Georgia. Let's keep our fingers crossed for another good turnout.

Rich Stiller – Personal Profile

How long have you been at Apex?

I have been working at Apex for 2 months.

Job Title/Position/Duties?

Quality Engineer and my duties are to ensure quality is maintained during all aspects of the manufacturing process.

What do you like most about your job?

Programming and operating the CMM is the best part of my job because it is most interesting and it is what I like to do most. I also like the variety of tools and parts that we manufacture here at Apex and each new day brings new challenges.

If there were something you can change about your job, what would it be?

If I could change one thing about my job, it would be to rid myself of all the cumbersome paperwork that we have to do to satisfy our customers. It takes less than a half hour to check most parts on the CMM, but then I have to transpose this information onto a separate first article report. Unfortunately, most of our customers require us to use first article forms.

Where do you see yourself 5 years from now?

In 5 years, I hope to be intimately involved with continuous improvement at Apex and finding ways to improve our quality, delivery, and efficiency. I enjoy finding better, faster, and cheaper ways to get things done.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Are you married? Do you have children?

In my spare time, I enjoy boating, working on cars, and having a blast with my wife and kids. A years and a half ago, I was awarded full custody of my 2 children; Joey (age 11) and Stephanie (age 8). They had previously been neglected but now they are thriving in my care. It makes me very proud to say that both my children are 'A' students and my son has been recently accepted to GATE. They are the most important thing in the world to me and everything I do I have my children in mind. Last October, I was married aboard a cruise ship to my new wife, Lorraine, and together with our children enjoy life to our fullest. It is only within the last year and a half that I have found true happiness now that my family is complete.

What is something that not many of your co-workers know about you? (Hobbies, special talents, etc.)

The one thing people don't know about me is that I spent nearly 10 years in the nuclear submarine Navy. So, pay no attention if you see me glowing.

Japan Corner News

You may remember from the last "Buzz" that Shellie and Chad McKinney won Benihana's *Win A Trip To Japan* contest.

The McKinney's weeklong vacation and tour of Kyoto Japan began on September 30, 2004.

We asked Chad to give us some highlights :

"Japan was truly an experience of a lifetime...There was so much to see and do while we were there, and I believe that we got alot of the culture by being there right in the heart of things. We experienced traveling by Subway, Train, & City Buses... This I believe had to be an experience on its own. Everything there is so clean and immaculate that you could literally eat off the ground it is so clean. The Temples and various building structures were like none other we have ever seen.

Other highlights I would have to say that I found very enjoyable were: the Sake Tasting tour where we were able to tour the Sake manufacturing plant where they produce the Sake and distribute it. Another fun time was the Kendo (Samurai) training facility where we were invited. This facility was one of the most Elite Universities where they do the Kendo/Samurai Swordsmanship training. I was actually picked out of the audience to fight against their top student; where if I was able to strike him in 1 of 6 parts of the body I would win the Kendo Sword. Fortunately I was able to strike him in 2 parts and won the sword which I will always keep. Another Highlight was when my wife was picked by Roki Aoki (Owner/Founder) & Kevin Aoki (VP of marketing) at the 40th Anniversary Dinner Party to go up on stage and crack open the barrel of Sake. This is an old tradition and is considered a very high honor by the Japanese – it is said to bring good luck to those people who participate in this event.

One day we hope to be able to have the chance to return to Japan for another vacation.

HEALTH TIPS:

Alternative preventions for the flu:

Avoid close contact - with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance form others to protect them from getting sick too.

Cover your mouth - and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

Clean your hands - washing your hands often will protect you from germs.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth - Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth.

Get plenty of sleep, physical activity, managing stress, drinking water, and eating nutritional food, will help you stay healthy in the winter and all year.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Nov. 1st	Ray Haizilip
Nov. 2nd	David O. Agy
Nov. 3rd	Armando Garcia
Nov. 6th	Alberto Garcia
Nov. 9th	David J. Reiniger
Nov. 12th	Harsoyo Lukito
Nov. 14th	Rick Ulmer
Nov. 16th	Fidencio Tobias
Nov. 20th	Andy T. Tran
Nov. 23rd	Rigoberto P. Perez
Nov. 25th	Melody Daniel
Nov. 28th	Robert F. Godby

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

Roger L. Lands	8th Anniversary
Stanley Farrow	7th Anniversary
Charles V. Krugh	5th Anniversary
George E. Penta	6th Anniversary
David C. Krugh	4th Anniversary
Thanh V. Nguyen	4th Anniversary
Rene Buelna	1st Anniversary



Apex wishes you , your family and friends a very Happy Thanksgiving.