

ICMA Spotlight

Central Pattern Company, Mark Petersen, President

The company was founded in the early 1920s, and is located in Hazelwood, Missouri, in North St. Louis County, just minutes from Lambert International Airport. "We pride ourselves on our long-standing commitment to quality in every job we produce. Our company has been dedicated to the use of NC and CNC machining in the production of patterns and molds since 1967," according to Mark Petersen. "At that time, we moved to our current location so that we could house our growing machine inventory in a fully air-conditioned and heated modern facility," he continued.

With close to 100,000 square feet of manufacturing facilities and over 25 CNC machines, there is no job too large for CPC. Regardless of size or complexity, everything produced receives the same attention to detail that has made Central Pattern a world leader in quality patterns, molds, and prototype parts. Whether it is a pattern that can fit in the palm of your hand or a pattern that requires two tractor trailers to haul, quality and

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The Foundation for
Metal Casting Education



THE ILLINOIS CAST METALS ASSOCIATION Runner

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Spring 2010

From Executive Director Stan Zielinski . . .

Capital City welcomes Netherlands Ambassador

The Capital City recently welcomed a special guest that attended our Ambassador Series Luncheon, sponsored by the University of Illinois Springfield and WSEC, Public TV. We welcomed Her Excellency Renee Jones-Bos, Ambassador to the United States from the Netherlands. As a participant I've had the privilege to meet some of the world's ambassadors to the U.S., who've spoken to our group. Ambassador Jones-Bos was our keynote speaker who talked about the 400-year relationship between the United States and the Netherlands. She was an eloquent speaker and quite personable. Since I would have embarrassed myself in an attempt to welcome her in Dutch, she saved me by welcoming me with similar thoughts "Aangenaam kennis te maken" (translation: delighted to make your acquaintance). We traditionally are served an ethnic lunch during an ambassador's visit that represents his or her country and so, it was interesting to see what was served (past lunches included lamb, New Zealand; stuffed cabbage rolls, Ukraine, and corn beef and cabbage, Ireland). We had delicious pot-roast stew with mashed potatoes (I described it to her as Ameri-

can comfort food). She agreed that the Dutch like similar foods especially roasted meat in gravy.

The ambassador noted the Netherlands' affiliation with America and our shared history and shared values between the two countries have always been at the heart of US-Dutch relations, as well as the common interests and progressive spirit of trade, entrepreneurship and non ideological open-mindedness. "The joint efforts that our countries make promotes prosperity, peace and principles throughout the world," she said. She explained that the economies of America and the Netherlands have always been intertwined for over four centuries and how trade and investment between the two countries create jobs, promote innovation and increase prosperity as well as the her country's desire to continue to partner with the U.S. to foster open markets and free trade. She pointed out that the Netherlands is the third largest investor in the United States, and that Dutch companies have created close to one million jobs by Dutch trade and investments.

She also indicated that the Netherlands is the fifth

largest foreign investor in Illinois, and is the 7th largest export market for US goods as well as the only EU country with a significant trade deficit with the USA. "The USA and the Netherlands are the best of friends and we have so much in common. From the First Salute to the present day. We remain one of your closest allies," she observed. "Our relation goes beyond mere shared interests: we have a shared history and shared values. And that is why we work together: for principles, by promoting human rights and international justice and for prosperity, through intensive trade and investment relations. As we begin this fifth century of friendship, we appreciate what was, what is, and what is yet to come."

The ambassador referred to her country as highly integrated into the world economy, and also is touched by the current financial and economic crisis. "My government, like the US, is fully committed to providing a vigorous, well-balanced and internationally coordinated response to this crisis," she explained. "The economies of America and the Netherlands have always been

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BRIEFLY

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Rock Island Arsenal

SPOTLIGHT

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customer satisfaction are priorities.

Today, CPC continues the tradition of quality by continually improving facilities and equipment to deliver the best product available at a reasonable cost. If you would like more information, an equipment list, or a tour of CPC's facilities, please do not hesitate to contact us. The company's Illinois facility is Rockbridge Castings, Rockbridge, Illinois, with Robert Pridmore as General Manager.

Central Pattern Company is a loyal ICMA member.

Associations Advance America and the world

Back-up generators could be deadly

Professional installation an important safety step

Portable generators may come in handy during long-term power outages. The growing popularity of portable electric generators has resulted in millions being placed in homes and small businesses across the nation. However, recent studies show that an overwhelming percentage may be installed incorrectly. As part of the "Teach Learn Care" TLC campaign, Safe Electricity urges consumers to understand the proper safety steps that must be taken. "A qualified vendor or electrical professional should be consulted to determine the best equipment for your situation or needs," advises Mike Ashenfelter, electrical inspector and member of the Safe Electricity advisory team. "A reliable vendor will know existing safety codes and

your utility's safety requirements. If installed and operated correctly, use of a standby or portable electric generators poses little danger, but improper installation or use could be deadly." Properly connecting the generator into the system is a critical step for safe and effective use. A licensed professional should install a permanent, standby electric generator and can help with proper equipment for safely using a portable generator.

Have a qualified electrician install a transfer switch. The transfer switch breaks the path of electricity between the power lines and your main electrical panel. This is the best way to protect you, your neighbors and repair crews from 'back feed.' Back feed occurs when an improperly connected generator begins

feeding electricity "back" through the power lines. It is your responsibility to take necessary steps to prevent the injury of anyone near lines, especially crews working to restore power. "Safety for the operators and users of a generating system in the home and utility crews cannot be over-emphasized," says Ashenfelter. Some homeowners choose smaller, portable generators to power essential electrical equipment during outages. Safe Electricity offers these tips for the safe operation and use of portable generators:

Read and follow all manufacturer operating instructions to properly ground the generator. Be sure you understand them before hooking up the generator.

Maintain adequate ventilation
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intertwined. Trade and investment between the Netherlands and the USA create jobs, promote innovation and increase prosperity. Especially in this difficult economic climate, the Netherlands is eager to continue partnering with the USA to foster open markets and free trade," she said. "The shared values of the Netherlands and the United States are also reflected in our joint efforts to promote human rights worldwide. The Netherlands takes international human rights very seriously: we subsidize many grassroots projects throughout, speak up for human rights in bilateral and multilateral settings, and we aim to set an exam-

ple in our own country – we are certainly not perfect, but we are always willing to listen to well-founded critique that others might have."

One of the more enlightening messages we take away from these events is to learn about our visiting ambassadors country's close relationship with the United States. Along with that we are given a short lesson about its history and geography, and its economic activities and cultural traditions all bundled together in one afternoon. It truly is an educational experience for us to learn how much we have in common and especially Illinois' business and social relationships with our international partners.

Afterwards, Ambassador Jones-Bos and Netherlands Consulate-General, Dirk W. Schiff along with local host and Capital City Lobbyist, Randal Witter, gave them a tour of the State Capitol that turned out to be an interesting experience for us. We had an occasion to view our spirited legislature in action, meet with Senate President John Cullerton, House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie and Governor Pat Quinn, who gave the ambassador quite a bit of their attention. We definitely enjoyed Ambassador Jones-Bos' visit and hope she too, enjoyed the warm and friendly hospitality of the Capital City during her stay.

GENERATORS

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tion. Generators emit carbon monoxide. It is against fire code to operate a generator in your home, garage or other enclosed building. Place it in a dry location outdoors.

Never plug a portable electric generator into a wall outlet or connect directly to a home's wiring.

This can energize utility power lines and injure you or others working nearby. Electrical back feed can also damage the generator and home electrical equipment.

Turn off the generator and allow cooling before refueling.

Gasoline and its vapors may ignite if they come in contact with hot components or an electrical spark. Store fuel in a properly designed container in a secure location away from the generator or other fuel-burning appliances, such as water heaters. Always have a fully charged, approved fire extinguisher located nearby.

Protect your appliances. Turn off or disconnect all appliances and lights before you begin operating the portable generator. Once the generator is running,

turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Remember, generators are for temporary usage, prioritize your needs.

Generators pose electrical risks especially when operated in wet conditions. Use a generator only when necessary when the weather creates wet or moist conditions. Protect the generator by operating it under an open, canopy-like structure on a dry surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it. Always ensure that your hands are dry before touching the generator.

Keep children and pets away from portable generators at all times. Many generator components are hot enough to burn you during operation.

Use proper extension cords. Use only safety-tested, shop-type electrical cords designed and rated for heavier, outdoor use to connect appliances. Many generators are equipped with twist-lock connects to reduce the chance of accidental disconnections due to vibrations.

Shut down the generator properly. Before shutting down a generator, turn off

and unplug all appliances and equipment being powered by the generator.

Remember maintenance between uses. It's important to drain the gasoline from the generator while it is being stored. It's also a good idea to inspect the fuel and oil filters, spark plug, oil level and fuel quality and start the generator on a regular basis before an emergency situation happens.

Safe Electricity suggests that these safety guidelines and basic operating instructions be posted in the home and with the generator. For additional electric generator and safety information, visit the program Web site at www.SafeElectricity.org. Keeping you safe all year is the goal of the Safe Electricity "Teach Learn Care" TLC campaign, an electrical safety public awareness program created and supported by a coalition of hundreds of organizations, including electric utilities, educators and other entities committed to promoting electrical safety.

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If you have any questions about the Illinois Cast Metals Association, please contact Stan Zielinski at 217-528-8238, email: stanz@ilcastmetals.org

Website:
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AFS UPCOMING EVENTS

Global Technology Series Includes Heat Treatment Theory and Practice, May 26-27, Schaumburg, IL

The third installment of the AFS Global Technology Series, Heat Treatment Theory and Practice. Two hands-on workshops will be held concurrently—one for ferrous and one for nonferrous participants.

TUE, JUN 8TH
AFS Research Board

WED, JUN 9TH AFS Division Council

CMI CLASSROOM COURSE CALENDAR

May 25-27 Casting Design
June 8-10 Cupola Melting for Engineers

CMI INTERNET COURSE CALENDAR

April 26-May 30 Gating & Riser Design

June 1-28
Green Sand Control

CMI ON DEMAND INTERNET COURSE CALENDAR

Defects Related to Gating & Riser Design

Hazard Communication Training

Basic Metallurgy of Ductile Iron

Six-Sigma Green Belt Certification

Casting Design

Employee motivation in the trenches

It's been a full year since the smell of grilled bankers hung over the nation's capital. Eight of the nine CEOs of banks that received TARP bailout money were testifying before the House Financial Services Committee. Among the complaints of the committee were the enormous bonuses that executives had been getting even as their companies lost billions. The bank executives countered that they have to compensate their key people lavishly or they'll lose them. Money is essential to motivation, they said. And they said this with such complete conviction that it was hard to believe they might be wrong.

But listeners to Marketplace on National Public Radio that same week were treated to a different per-

spective when the show asked some working people in L.A. what inspires them to do a great job. "It's my passion for arts and beauty," said a hairdresser. "I want to be the best shoeshine man there is," said the owner of a shoeshine stand. "If you care for your customers, you want to do the best you can for them," said a Starbucks barista. Obviously none of these people would turn down a raise if it was offered to them. But when asked what motivates them to do a great job, unlike the CEOs, money was not the first thing knocking on the back of their teeth. It's about pride. It's about doing meaningful work. It's about being of service.

David Lazarus of the L.A. Times noted that "Ordinary

working stiffs seem to say, 'I'm gonna do my job. Yes, of course I want to be paid well for it, but I take pride in what I'm doing.' Whereas you look at the Wall Street culture, and it's not the fault of the workers themselves, but the idea there seems to be that no good effort should go unrewarded — and it should go rewarded as lavishly as possible." So what's the difference between these front-line folks and the CEOs? I think it has everything to do with how they spend their workdays--specifically, how far they are from the customers.

For too many CEOs, customer service is a number, a score, something to be pushed higher to increase profits and productivity. But customer service isn't an

abstraction to the hairdresser, the shoeshiner, and the barista. Why? Because their days are actually spent serving customers. They know firsthand and in real time whether their companies are succeeding in making people's lives better. As a result, employee motivation and workplace satisfaction are measured and felt in very different terms on the front lines than two or three or ten steps away from the action.

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Foundry Educational Foundation approves new officers

The Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF) held its Annual Meeting at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio on April 16, 2010. At the meeting, the following officers of FEF were approved:

President – Tom Cobett –
Research & Dev. Mgr.,
OmniSource Corp.,
Strongsville, OH

1st Vice President – Jim Frost –
Assistant Melting Mgr., ACIP-
CO, Birmingham, AL

2nd Vice President – Kathy
Hayrynen – Technical
Director, Applied Process,

Livonia, MI
Secretary – Joe Costabile –
Sales Engineer, Hickman,
Williams & Co., Oak Brook, IL
Treasurer – Rob Steele – NA
Operations Mgr.-S&B
Industrial Minerals NA Inc.,
St. Augustine, FL

Immediate Past President – Jerry
Clancey – V.P.-Sales,
Fairmount Minerals,
Benton Harbor, MI

The following people
were elected as Board Mem-
bers for a three-year term:
Glenn Byczynski,
Quality/Process Engineering
Mgr., Nemak, Windsor, ON

Tom Dempsey, Technical Sales
Rep, Hill & Griffith Co., Olmst-
ed Falls, OH

Patricio Gil, CEO, Blackhawk de
Mexico, S.A., Santa Catarina,
Nuevo Leon

Kelley Kerns, Mgr. of Technical
Services, Fairmount Minerals,
Benton Harbor, MI

Elise Manders, Sr. Process Engi-
neer, Kohler Co., Kohler, WI

Marty Putnik, Sales Consultant

Steve Shaffer, V.P. Human

Resources, Dalton

Corporation, Warsaw, IN

Laura Strohmayr, Regional
Sales Mgr., American Colloid
Co., Hoffman Estates, IL

Tim Wuest, President, Badger
Mining Corporation, Berlin, WI

As required by FEF by-
laws, the following people
will be taking a one year
sabbatical from board serv-
ice: Mike Bartol, Dana
Coulombe, Mark Gaspari,
Tim Hajduk, Dan Korpi
and Mo Lynn.

The board also approved
staff personnel — Bill
Sorensen, Executive Direc-
tor and Pam Lechner, Exec-
utive Assistant. For addi-
tional information about
FEF, go to www.fefinc.org.

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