



CONNECTION

Greater Kansas City Chapter #92

February 2008

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1 – FEBRUARY MEETING DETAILS: TOUR OF USPS KANSAS CITY, MO PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER



Join us for a tour of the USPS Kansas City, MO Processing and Distribution Center. This facility was formerly a warehouse for Sears as a catalog distribution center. In 1996, \$99 million was approved for the renovation project which resulted in the building being completely gutted and rebuilt. The USPS moved in to the building in 1999. One floor alone of the building is 300,000 square feet, equivalent to over five football fields. The facility contains over \$25 million worth of material handling systems and processes 7-8 million pieces of mail a day (approximately 1% of the nation’s total daily mail volume). About 1900 employees work in this facility, across three shifts, and mail is processed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Location and Details:

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Date: | February 20th, 2008 | |
| Time: | 5:30pm | Cost: Members - Free |
| Where: | 1700 Cleveland
Kansas City, MO | NonMembers - \$5 |

Reservations: Please RSVP by **Friday, February 15th** to Anita Ranhotra (aranho2@hallmark.com) with your company name. Please note: Competitors (FedEx, UPS, DHL) will not be permitted on the tour.

2 – MARCH MEETING PREVIEW: NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART, BLOCH BUILDING

Location and Details:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Date: | March 27 th , 2008 |
| Time: | 6:00pm |
| Where: | 4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, MO |
| Cost: | Members - \$1
NonMembers - \$5 |



3 – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It wasn't so long ago that I participated in my first IIE Mentor Day while attending the University of Missouri. We toured the Hallmark Distribution Center in Liberty, Missouri and the experience opened me up to what is now a 7-year career at Hallmark. I'm grateful for the doors that have opened for me as an IIE member, and I hope that each of the 80-something members in our chapter share that same sentiment. I want everyone to realize the benefits of not only being members of our chapter but also of having a deeper involvement in our exciting events and strong network.

Looking back on 2007, we held six tours, provided a Platinum awarded newsletter to our members to keep them informed, filled area IE positions that were posted in our newsletter, sent our President-Elect to the Volunteer Leadership Training (VoLT) session at the National IIE Conference in Nashville, organized a fall conference on performance management systems, held a KSU/MU Mentor Day where 24 students shadowed professionals, cleaned Union Hill Cemetery as part of a community service project, sponsored student attendance at the IIE Regional Technical Paper Conference, and sponsored four scholarships for future IEs.

I want to thank Jay Christensen, President, for his leadership in executing our 2007 Strategic Plan. I also want to thank Jennifer Albers, Past President, for her dedicated service to our chapter over the last few years. And I'd like to thank Sara Hausback, Newsletter Editor, for making our chapter newsletter such a success.

I'm pleased to introduce some new faces and fresh energy to our 2008 Officer Board. Jairo de Jesus of Farmland is the President-Elect, Aleia Vest of Nebraska Furniture Mart is the Secretary, and Kyle Grabill of Garmin is the KSU Liaison/Membership Chair.

We have an exciting year of events planned for 2008. In January, we had a joint meeting with ASQ. In February, we will tour a branch of the United States Postal System. And in March, we are organizing a dinner meeting at the Nelson-Atkins museum. In addition, in January we had the first of many chapter happy hours. I hope you are able to join us for these upcoming events and I'm looking forward to serving the chapter.

Liz Meyer

Chapter President

4 – MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Region 5 Chapter 92 Membership 87

Meet your new Chapter President!

Liz Meyer - Liz grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and graduated with a BSIE from the University of Missouri and an MBA from the University of Kansas. Her career at Hallmark Cards started with a summer engineering internship in the Lawrence, Kansas production facility. After graduation, Liz managed sticker and invitation production on second shift for two years, and supported various departments as a process improvement engineer for five years. For a year and a half, she specialized in Root Cause problem solving, SMED, and TPM. Liz is currently a product development engineer in the Keepsakes Division in Kansas City where her role is providing

the light, sound, and motion in ornaments. She also actively recruits engineers for Hallmark Cards (huge shameless plug). For fun, Liz enjoys traveling, scuba diving, biking, and reading.

5 – CHAPTER UPDATE - Chapter Activity Report (CAR)

What is a CAR?

The Chapter Activity Report (CAR) is a tool utilized to provide meaningful feedback measurement in regards to chapter's activities in an effort to identify improvement trends as well as, their respective progress.

What is the importance of the CAR?

The ultimate purpose of performance measurement tools, such as the CAR, is to evaluate and improve a product or process. The fundamental concept is that "one cannot manage what one cannot measure."

During the upcoming months, this section of our newsletter will highlight different aspects of the CAR and demonstrate how our chapter's activities are being scored in regards to our efforts in 2008.

Jairo de Jesus
President-Elect

6 – ENGINEERS WEEK



ANNUAL ENGINEERS WEEK LUNCHEON

Date: Tuesday, February 19th, 2008

Time: 11:00 a.m.: Exhibits Open

11:45 a.m.: Luncheon

12:15 p.m. Awards

12:45 pm Presentation

Location: Kansas City Downtown Marriott Imperial Ballroom

Muehlbach Suite

200 W 12th St

Kansas City, MO 64105

Menu: Tossed Green Salad, Sliced Beef Sirloin, Oven Browned Potatoes, Green Beans with Almonds, Rolls & Butter, New York Cheesecake or Chocolate Fudge Torte, Meringue Pie, Coffee & Tea

Cost: \$35.00 for Members and Guests

\$340.00 for Table of 10, Parking Validated at Front Desk

Reservations: Alysen Abel by Tuesday, February 12th; aabel@peridiangroup.com Phone: 913-626-1062

7 – NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

IIE Annual Conference & Expo | Travel

All persons will be required to present a **valid passport** to enter and exit Canada. Processing time for passport applications in the United States is at least three months. Visit the U.S. State Department Web site for an application.

Before you go, visit www.iienet.org to:

Determine if you will be required to have a special visa to enter and exit Canada.

See helpful information on crossing the border between the United States and Canada.

Visit Travel Canada for information on travel requirements based on your country of origin.

8 – CAREER DEVELOPMENT: JOB OPENINGS WITH HALLMARK CARDS, INC.

Materials Scientist - Hallmark Cards, Inc.

Consumer Product Integrity serves as a corporate resource for product safety direction for all consumer products produced by Hallmark Cards and subsidiaries for the North American market.



This position is for a professional with technical expertise in materials science and will be focused on understanding the safe use of a variety of materials in children's and innovative products. This professional will support innovation teams made up of a variety of disciplines from across the company to ensure products are designed with materials that will be safe for use in the application and will meet all existing North American regulatory requirements. He/she will recommend compliance positions for regulations and anticipated regulations that involve chemicals or materials used or considered for use in Hallmark products. The position will also develop expertise in all areas of product safety and regulatory compliance, including food safety, so that they can consult with customers on the complete range of issues that impact Hallmark products. Responsibilities include: ongoing tracking of trends, legislation and regulatory activity in the product safety and product compliance arenas; identification of safety/regulatory testing requirements for product specification documents; training others involved in product development and specification on the correct application of regulations and voluntary standards; and communicating changes in regulations or laws that impact Hallmark products.

Basic qualifications include a bachelor's degree with 5 years experience.

The successful applicant will have a bachelor's degree or higher in Materials Science, Materials Engineering, Chemistry or Chemical Engineering. Prefer candidates with 5+ years experience in applying technical materials knowledge to consumer products.

To apply for this opportunity, visit www.Hallmark.com/Careers and select Search Jobs. Once you select Search Jobs, click on Learn more about positions with Corporate **Headquarters, Operations and Manufacturing**. Enter IRC34196 in keywords. Please create a profile and upload your resume to apply.

This position requires permanent authorization to work in the U.S. Hallmark does not generally provide sponsorship for employment visa status.

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Principles Only, Please
w/m/v/d

Regulatory Compliance Specialist - Hallmark Cards, Inc.

Consumer Product Integrity serves as a corporate resource for product safety direction for all consumer products produced by Hallmark Cards and subsidiaries for the North American market.

This position is for a professional with experience or expertise in product safety and regulatory compliance. The individual selected will be responsible for understanding and correct application of safety and environmental regulations associated with products that are made or distributed by Hallmark Cards. Maintaining high level knowledge of product safety and environmental issues in the European Union, concerns of activist groups and NGOs will be essential to help develop potential future direction for concerns in the United States. Deliverables will be timely updates and recommendations for Hallmark's compliance position when required. This individual will work closely with Hallmark Legal as well as diverse business units throughout the corporation. Responsibilities include: ongoing tracking of trends, legislation and regulatory activity in the product safety and product compliance arenas; identification of safety/regulatory testing requirements for product specification documents; training others involved in product development and specification on the correct application of regulations and voluntary standards; and communicating changes in regulations or laws that impact Hallmark products.

Basic qualifications is a Bachelor degree and 5 years experience in product safety compliance.

The successful candidate will have a bachelor's degree or higher in Chemical Engineering, Chemistry or a bachelor's degree in a technical field of science or engineering with 5 years experience in product safety compliance. For the right person, relocation is provided.

To apply for this opportunity, visit www.Hallmark.com/Careers and select Search Jobs. Once you select Search Jobs, click on Learn more about positions with Corporate **Headquarters, Operations and Manufacturing**. Enter IRC34197 in keywords. Please create a profile and upload your resume to apply.

This position requires permanent authorization to work in the U.S. Hallmark does not generally provide sponsorship for employment visa status.

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ISO CONSULTING JOB AD - MarkEight

ISO Consulting Professional – Local Consulting Firm has need for experienced ISO consulting professionals to analyze, plan, document and oversee ISO 9000 for a Healthcare Organization. Analyze organizational management system gaps utilizing system audit expertise. Develop procedures for the organization's processes. Develop metrics for processes that provide data for process management and future improvement opportunities. Business process design or re-engineering experience a plus. Initial engagement is approximately 21/2 months duration with a potential multi-year follow-on engagement.

Qualifications

Requirements:

- Bachelors Degree in Industrial Engineering or equivalent experience
- Prefer MBA or Masters in respective discipline
- Prefer Healthcare experience
- Require experience in leading ISO 9000 implementation / consulting experience
- Prefer experience with process re-engineering
- Prefer experience and capability in conducting Facilitated Sessions
- Excellent change management skills
- Ability to manage multiple complex projects
- Strong interpersonal skills to effectively interact with all levels of management and staff
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Strong leadership skills
- Strong problem solving and data analysis skills
- Strong quantitative and analytical skills

Please email Resume and descriptive and clarifying Cover Letter to resume@markeight.com

Project Manager JOB AD - MarkEight

Professional Project Manager – Local Consulting Firm has need for an experienced Project Manager for a major consulting engagement consisting of ISO 9000 - type implementation and process re-engineering for a Healthcare Organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for delivering the engagement on schedule, in scope and on budget. MS Project will be used. Responsibilities include creation and management of Risk Plans, Change Management approach and Communication Plans, issue identification, management and resolution, tracking and reporting on customer feedback and ensure engagement management is kept informed through status and project reports. Initial engagement is approximately 21/2 months duration with a potential multi-year follow-on engagement.

Qualifications

Requirements:

- Bachelors Degree
- Prefer MBA or Masters in respective discipline

- Require PMP Certification
- Require 2 years of Project Management experience
- Require in-depth experience / certification using MS Project
- Prefer Healthcare experience
- Must be able to establish priorities in a dynamic environment
- Develops excellent working relationships
- Excellent presentation, writing, verbal and customer relationship skills
- Prefer experience with process re-engineering
- Prefer experience and capability in conducting Facilitated Sessions
- Excellent change management skills
- Ability to manage multiple complex projects
- Strong interpersonal skills to effectively interact with staff, management and executives
- Strong leadership skills
- Strong problem solving and data analysis skills
- Strong quantitative and analytical skills

Please email Resume and descriptive and clarifying Cover Letter to resume@markeight.com

9 – OFFICER LISTING

President – *Liz Meyer*, Hallmark Cards, Inc., (816) 545-6064, lmeyer3@hallmark.com

President Elect – *Jairo de Jesus*, Farmland Foods, Inc., (816) 243-2840, jadejesus@farmland.com

Past President – *Jay Christensen*, JCPenney, (913) 541-2324, kjchrist@jcpenney.com

Treasurer- *Jennifer Hedberg*, Hallmark Cards, Inc., (816) 792-6207, jhedbe2@hallmark.com

Secretary – *Aleia Vest*, Nebraska Furniture Mart, aleia.vest@nfm.com

Membership Chair – *Rachel Olson*, Hallmark Cards, Inc., (816) 645-5269, rolson2@hallmark.com

Newsletter Editor - *Anita Ranhotra*, Hallmark Cards, Inc., (816) 274-7265, aranho2@hallmark.com

Corporate Relations and JEC Rep – *Brian McCarthy*, MAMTC, (913) 967-1226, bmccarthy@mamtc.com

Student Chapter Liaison (KSU) – *Kyle Grabill*, Garmin, kdgrabill@yahoo.com

Student Chapter Liaison (MU) – *Teniece Hardy*, Hallmark Cards, Inc., (785) 843-9050 x150; thardy5@hallmark.com

Conference Director – *Open*

Community Affairs – *Beth Kelley*, Hallmark Cards, Inc., (913) 727-6692 x486, bkelle1@hallmark.com

Board Members - *Bill Czeschin*, (816)796-6231, Czeschin@comcast.net

Quarterman Lee, (816) 931-1414, qlee@strategosinc.com

Bill Wrennall, (913)681-8435, wrennall@tlg ltd.com