



CONNECTION

Greater Kansas City Chapter #92

March 2009

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1 - MARCH MEETING

Frito-Lay Plant Tour



On Tuesday, March 24th, we will be taking a tour of the Frito Lay plant in Topeka, KS. Frito Lay started in 1961 when Frito Co. merged with H.W. Lay & Co. Both companies were created in 1932 and specialized in different chip products. Frito Co. specialized in corn chips, where H.W. Lay & Co. focused on potato chips. Together Frito Lay became and is still the leader in the snack-food industry.

Frito Lay has its largest production center in the Midwest here in Topeka where it was built in 1956 and employed 60 workers. Today the plant employs 630 workers and 170 for the distribution center. At the Topeka plant, they produce a wide variety of the products from Frito Lay. Some produced are the best selling brand Lay’s potato chips, Doritos, Tostitos, and Cheetos.

Because of the type of product produced, there are certain guidelines set for the tour.

All tour guests must wear shirts/blouses with sleeves (no midriffs).

No shorts or capris; everyone must wear long pants.

Proper footwear is required; no open-toed or open heeled shoes, no crocs allowed. (Rubber soled shoes are the best).

No jewelry is allowed (except plain wedding bands with no stones).

No gum or candy during the tour.

Please leave personal belongings in your vehicle

All tour guests will be required to wear a hairnet and when necessary, a beard net may be required. Safety glasses must be worn.

No cameras or cell phones allowed in the plant.



Twenty people is the maximum allowed for the tour so RSVP early and come and enjoy a snack fulfilling fun day at Frito Lay.

When: Tuesday, March 24th ; 3:30pm

Where: 4236 S.W. Kirklawn Ave Topeka, KS 66609

Cost: Free for IIE members, \$5 for nonmembers

RSVP: To Teniece Hardy (thardy5@hallmark.com; 785-843-9050 x303) by Friday, March 13th



2 – APRIL MEETING PREVIEW

Stay tuned for a Lunch and Learn event on the Advancement in Technology & Cost Savings Projects on April 21st. Members will be asked to share their latest efforts associated with cost savings projects and implementation of technology advancements.

3 – PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone and Happy early Saint Patrick's Day! We just closed out another successful month for our Chapter as we received a recognition from our Regional Vice President and HQ for continued excellence in our administrative functions (we received perfect score for our 2009 Strategic Plan).



On the other hand, I must take the time to recognize a great achievement from one of our own members, our honorable Past President, Mr. Jay Christensen. Jay has just been elected Region Vice President of the South Central region. His commitment for excellence and achievement within IIE speaks highly of him and the tradition that has been developed by the Greater Kansas City Chapter of IIE. Please join me in congratulating Jay for his new role in IIE!

We discussed last month that 2009 would be a very exciting and energetic year. I hope that you have taken up or advice, buckled up tight, and hung on to your hats... as February was a very busy time for our Chapter. We were all over the city participating in events associated with Engineer's Week (did you see our congratulatory ad in the KC Star Newspaper?), energizing tour to the KCP&L Hawthorn facility, and attending the USD 500 School District Math Relays (Wyandotte County high school).

Servitude....One of our chapter efforts this year will be to increase our exposure and impact in the community by participating in further community service related activities, just like the USD 500 School District Math Relays. This was the fifth year of this city –wide event where over 1,200 students (7th – 12th grade) from the Kansas City, KS School District came together to compete in mathematics for one day. I was glad to see that more people are taking interest on this event as they were able to attain further corporate sponsorship this year, news coverage (Channel 9 Morning News – live broadcast), and Mayor Joe Readon came out to address all of the event's attendees and reiterate that the participating kids will be our future scientists, engineers, doctors, or lawyers and how important it is to give them the proper support while they continue to embrace and achieve in academics. The Greater KC Chapter of IIE was right there in the front row extending our servitude and collaboration to such honorable cause.



KCK Mayor, Joe Readon, addresses the crowd at the Wyandotte H.S. 5th USD 500 Math Relays

Please stay tune to further opportunities to support our chapter to continue to solidify our position as one of the premier professional organizations in Kansas City.

We have another exciting tour coming up as we will visit the Frito Lay plant in Topeka, KS. The Frito Lay plant has the latest and greatest in food processing and packaging technology, while been a leader in the industry in Food Safety and Quality. Please join us and participate in this exciting tour at Frito Lay plant.

Sincerely,
Jairo deJesus
President

4 - MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Region: South Central; Chapter: 92; Membership: 100

As mentioned in the President's Message, our very own Jay Christensen has been elected as the new IIE Regional Vice President for our South Central Region. And now, for a few words from our new RVP....

KCIIE Members,

First let me say thank you to everyone who has helped me get to this position, from counsel and advice to encouragement and support. A special thanks goes to Anita Ranhotra, who, of her own accord, ran a successful Obama-like grass roots campaign to help me get elected. And as I told her when she convinced me to become chapter president, "You got me into this, you're gonna help me out!" But I am looking forward to helping out our regional chapters with some of their challenges and opportunities, as well as bringing some of their good ideas back to the KC chapter.

Although I'm not officially on the clock until April 1st, I undertook my first duties as RVP this past weekend by traveling down to the University of Oklahoma for the Regional Student Paper Conference. While the snowy northern Kansas roads made the start of the trip interesting, it was more interesting and beneficial to meet some of the student chapter officers and faculty advisors. I found that a few faculty advisors are also working with their local senior chapters to retain students in IIE once they graduate, an issue we've been dealing with for several years. This is definitely a major area of opportunity for chapter growth that I plan on working on during my term.

Oh, and for those keeping score, the winning paper was presented by Oklahoma State (*Marcus Concienne, Mitchel McCowan, and Doann Nguyen*). Second and third place were taken by Wichita State, (2nd place - *Katherine Leftwich* and 3rd place - *Brian Oney*).

We've all heard several times how good and strong our chapter is, and I'll confirm it once again. I think my experiences leading this chapter will help as I move on to helping other chapters, whether it be restarting the Houston chapter, building up the Central Arkansas chapter to rival Northwest Arkansas, or helping merge the Dallas and Fort Worth chapters. We're always seeking out good ideas and good leaders, so please feel free to contact me or any of the chapter officers if you've got something to share or to get more involved. Hopefully I'll be seeing you around town at one of our chapter events, but if not I know I'll be seeing you in Miami for the IIE National Conference! (Yes, I ended with a cheap, shameless plug...who's really surprised?)

Sincerely,

Jay Christensen

Regional Vice President – South Central Region

5 – NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

2009 IIE Annual Conference

May 30 - June 3
Doral Golf Resort & Spa
Miami, Florida

Industry managers, top-notch researchers and outstanding educators reveal creative and innovative solutions at the Institute of Industrial Engineers Annual Conference and Expo 2009, an event open to all involved in process improvement, at the Doral Golf Resort & Spa in Miami, Florida. The conference includes research presentations from more than 700 individuals representing industry and academia plus more than 80 industry-focused practical solutions, keynote speakers, awards, simulation competition, facility tours, networking, student events and everything about industrial and systems engineering you could ask for and more.

2009 IIE Board of Trustees and Regional Officers Elected

In an election in which participation increased by almost 50 percent over 2008, the members of the Institute have elected four new Board of Trustees members, two members of the Networking Leadership Council and four new region vice presidents.

Officers elected are:

President-Elect – Roman Hlutkowsky
Senior Vice President-at-Large, Academic – Julie Higle
Senior Vice President, Chapter Networking – Joan Wagner
Senior Vice President, Continuing Education – Jim Moore
Vice President, Technical Networking – Deb Laudenslager and Toni Doolen
Region Vice President, Great Lakes – Gary Altman
Region Vice President, Mid-Atlantic – Mike McGee
Region Vice President, North Central – Randy Wahlstrom
Region Vice President, South Central – Jay Christensen



New SVP – Chapter Networking, Joan Wagner is the outgoing RVP for our South Central region! Congratulations, Joan!

6 – CAREER DEVELOPMENT



Popular Books

Zapp: The Lighting of Empowerment by William Byham

Zapp is a book for first time managers. The basis of the book is the notion that employee empowerment also translates into employee commitment. The author presents some tactics and techniques similar to the principles of cell manufacturing. Employee empowerment based on the overall employee commitment to the cause creating further ownership and job satisfaction. He points out that managers do at times forget that most answers to common problems may be right in front of their faces and all that they need to do is to get the employee, the one who actually performs the task, involved to trouble shoot the problem.

The book describes positive tools, such as the employee engagement, positive and constant feedback, training, performance monitoring, open communication, etc. The author demonstrates situations where employee moral were compromised due to the lack of appropriate feedback. The author evens talks about, Industrial Engineering, in a passage talking about the Old MacDonald E.I.E.I.O (Effective Industrial Engineering Interdepartment Observer).

Miller's Bolt: A Modern Business Parable from Thomas Stirr

Miller's Bolt talks about perception in the work place. The book tells the story of a professional who thought that he was doing the right thing for the company and suddenly this person was reminded that there is more than just achieving results. The book also talks about managing people and most importantly - managing relationships. The book walks through the crusade the professional went though in order to understand how and why he was failing and most importantly how he was able to develop a plan to turn the situation around. The book deals with measurable and well defined concepts of project management, as well as peoples' personalities, emotions, and others.

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in your local IIE chapter? Do you want to give back to the community and to the profession? If you answered "YES" to either question, we have an opportunity for you! The KCIIE chapter has initiated committees for various projects and is currently looking for volunteers to help with Community Service and the Fall Conference.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact Beth Kelley (bkelle1@hallmark.com) for Community Service and Kyle Grabill (kyle.grabill@garmin.com) for the Fall Conference!

Some upcoming events that we are considering for support include: Friends of Scouting, Math Relays, KC Science and Engineering Fair, E-Week, and First Robotics.

7 - CHAPTER UPDATE

On February 25th, our Kansas City Senior Chapter submitted our annual Chapter Activity Report (CAR) to IIE headquarters. The report outlined chapter activities throughout the 2008 calendar year and awarded points based on a predetermined grading system.

While the official scoring has yet to occur, the unofficial results awards the KC Chapter with 87 out of 100 points possible, which is a net increase from the 75 points awarded in last year's CAR. The tentative results will award the KC Senior Chapter with the Gold Award once the results have been certified by IIE Headquarters and the Regional Vice-President. The Gold Award is the highest award from IIE headquarters for a Chapter's performance as outlined in the CAR and is something that each KC IIE Senior Chapter member should take pride in!

In the coming months, we will be reviewing the breakdown of the points awarded and discussing the chapter's strategy for maintaining or improving performance in the following areas:


- 1: Chapter Strategic Plans & Operations
- 2: Chapter Programs
- 3: Membership Communications, Growth & Retention
- 4: Student Outreach & Community Affairs
- 5: Member/Chapter/Institute Support

Once again, congratulations to the KC IIE Senior Chapter and its members for receiving the Gold Award for their CAR performance!

Sincerely,
Kyle Grabill
President – Elect

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2009 **C3**

Congratulations to all Engineers!

 **Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE)**

The Greater Kansas City Chapter of IIE would like to commend all current and aspiring Engineers in the Kansas City area during the 2009 Engineer Week!

Please visit our website to attain further information about Industrial Engineering, IIE membership, chapter activities, and events.

www.iienet.org/kansascity

*The KCIIE chapter would like to recognize those individuals who attend our events. So, as a **Thank You** – the chapter will be giving away a gift certificate to a local store or restaurant at each meeting! Be sure to sign up for our meetings so you can be registered for the drawing!*

*KCIIE ad in the Sunday,
February 15th issue of the
Kansas City Star!*

7 – CHAPTER NEWS CONT.

February Meeting Recap

Thanks to all those who attended the KCP&L Hawthorn Power Plant Tour on Tuesday Feb 24th! The facility, which was dedicated in 1956, sits on 550-acre site on Missouri River. The Hawthorn 5 Power Plant represents 26 percent of Kansas City Power & Light total production capacity. Hawthorn 5 was built in 1969 the company’s first modern electricity generating unit, with twice the capacity of Hawthorn’s original four units and was upgraded from 476 to 565 megawatts, adding critically needed power for the Midwest. This KCP&L plant employs about 130-135 employees with a workers to managers ratio of about 7:1. The tour allowed the group to see the entire process of electrical generation. The coal comes in every couple days, 135 rail cars at a time and the plant currently burns more than 2 million tons of coal annually; an average of about 7,000 tons per day at full load. The auto dumping facility allows for the cars to be emptied without ever being removed from the train. From there we were able to follow the coal through conveying, crushing, and eventually burning to generate the electrical output. Not only were we able to walk the grounds, we were able to take the elevator up to the top of the facility, where the burners are located. Thanks to KCP&L for providing such an informative tour!



Have you ever wondered what happens to those surveys you fill out after attending a KCIIE event? The KCIIE board regularly reviews the feedback you provide and incorporates that into planning for future events. Thank you for your feedback!



Page: IIE KCPL Tour

1. Please complete the following question using a scale 1-5, with 5 being "Highly Satisfied" and 1 being "Improvement Needed".

	5	4	3	2	1	Response Count
Overall tour experience	66.7% (4)	0.0% (0)	33.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6
Location of tour	66.7% (4)	16.7% (1)	16.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6
Day of week of the tour	50.0% (3)	16.7% (1)	33.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6
Presentation by the tour leader	50.0% (3)	33.3% (2)	16.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6
Length of tour	50.0% (3)	33.3% (2)	16.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6
Ability to ask questions	66.7% (4)	33.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6
Please include additional comments						3

2. Would you participate again?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	83.3%	5
No	16.7%	1
If no, please tell us why		2
answered question		6
skipped question		0

answered question	6
skipped question	0

8 – STUDENT CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

University of Missouri News

Dr. G. Don Taylor, department head of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Virginia Tech and Vice President for Academics of IIE International, traveled to the University of Missouri recently to share experience and thoughts on the industrial engineering profession. His visit, sponsored by the MU student chapter of IIE and the Organizational Resource Group, was eagerly awaited and well received by students and faculty of the MU Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering department. Dr. Taylor presented logistical research to IMSE's graduate seminar and gave a discussion on leadership at the monthly undergraduate seminar. In addition to a campus tour and meeting with many of the department's faculty, he also attended an informal dinner held by MU IIE at a Columbia institution, Shakespeare's Pizza.

The four officers of the University of Missouri student chapter of IIE traveled to Norman, Oklahoma, the weekend of February 27 through March 1 for the annual IIE South Central Regional conference. For three of our officers, this was a new experience; only our vice president, Katie Kuster, has attended this conference before. The chapter hopes to continue to promote MU IIE's presence at these conferences.

Katie Tepper was announced as the first ever MU student to win the national Alpha Pi Mu scholarship award! <http://engineering.missouri.edu/news/2009/03/03/katie-tepper-first-mu-student-to-win-alpha-pi-mu-award/>

Kansas State University News

Dear KC IIE Chapter Member,

The Kansas State Student Chapter of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) is trying to implement a new program to encourage student participation in our organization. We have designated the month of March as IIE member appreciation month. The goal for this program is to encourage Industrial Engineering students to become members of our organization as well as to show our gratitude to current members for the hard work that they have put into the organization over the last year. Currently, we have approximately 30 student members and we are hoping that this program will help us increase these numbers.

I am writing to ask if your company would be willing to donate any goodies such as pens, cups, water bottles, folders, notebooks, etc. to be handed out to K-State IIE student members during our appreciation month. We understand that these economic times are difficult, but we feel that this would be a very good way to inexpensively promote your company. If your company chooses to donate, we will highlight your company's support during our March assembly. This could help your company form a relationship with our talented future engineers through brand recognition.

We would really appreciate any assistance you and your company could provide. If you are interested in donating, please contact me at willisde@ksu.edu. Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best Regards,
David E. Willis III
Co-Chair Chapter Development, IIE
2037 Durland Hall, Kansas State University - IMSE Department
Manhattan, KS 66506
willisde@ksu.edu

8 – STUDENT CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT CONT.

Congratulations to both the University of Missouri-Columbia and Kansas State University!

Both chapters are recipients of the Student Chapter Recognition Award from IIE!

The award, in acknowledgement of our chapter's "improvements, progress, and overall achievements," was granted for the 2007-2008 academic year. The University Chapter Activity Report is the basis for the University Chapter Recognition Program Awards. Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards are given based upon points scored.

Below are the results for our South Central Region:



GOLD Award

University of Arkansas
Kansas State University
University of Texas - El Paso
Wichita State University

SILVER Award

University of Missouri - Columbia

BRONZE Award

University of Texas at Arlington

Award of Merit

Texas A&M University - Commerce

9 – OFFICER LISTING

President

Jairo de Jesus

Farmland Foods, Inc.
(816) 243-2840

jadejesus@farmland.com

President Elect

Kyle Grabill

Garmin
(913) 440-2174

kyle.grabill@garmin.com

Past President

Liz Fine

Hallmark Cards, Inc.
(816) 545-6064

lfine2@hallmark.com

Treasurer

Jennifer Hedberg

Hallmark Cards, Inc.
(816) 274-5545

jhedbe2@hallmark.com

Secretary

Aleia Maciula

Nebraska Furniture Mart
(913) 288-6503

aleia.maciula@nfm.com

Membership Chair

Rachel Olson

Hallmark Cards, Inc.
(816) 545-5269

rolson2@hallmark.com

Newsletter Editor

Anita Ranhotra

Hallmark Cards, Inc.
(816) 274-7265

aranho2@hallmark.com

Corporate Relations/JEC

Brian McCarthy

MAMTC
(913) 967-1226

bmccarthy@mamtc.com

Community Affairs

Beth Kelley

Hallmark Cards, Inc.
(913) 727-6692 ext. 486

bkelle1@hallmark.com

Webmaster

Jay Christensen

JCPenney's
(913) 541-2324

kjchrist@jcpenny.com

KSU Student Chapter Liaison(s)

Kyle Grabill and

Anita Ranhotra

MU Student Chapter Liaison

Teniece Hardy

Hallmark Cards, Inc.
(785) 843-9050 ext. 303

thardy5@hallmark.com

Chapter Advisory Board Members

Bill Czeschin,

(816) 796-6231

Czeschin@comcast.net

Quarterman Lee

(816) 931-1414

qlee@strategosinc.com

Bill Wrennall

(913) 681-8435

wrennall@tgltd.com