

THE HEADLINER

Lucent Technologies
Bell Labs Innovations



Connectivity Solutions, Omaha Works

January/February, 1998

ISO 14001 registration is recommended

Based on an audit of the quality of the Omaha Works' environmental management system (EMS) conducted in December last year, we could receive official word of registration to ISO 14001 by late February or early March 1998.

Auditors from Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) have recommended that we be granted registration, after they completed a final audit which included interviews of more than 50 employees.

"Overall, the audit went quite well. By their observation log, the auditors seemed to

think we did an excellent job,"

said Bob

Dennelly of the Works' environmental health and safety organization.

Dennelly and two other members of the department, Beth Osterchill and John Hazuka, each accompanied one of the three auditors as they conducted random interviews throughout the plant.

"People were very knowledgeable about our environmental policy and environmental aspects. There were some standouts who really made an impression," Dennelly noted.

"We thank everyone for doing a good job," he added. "I think it's how people responded that really won us the auditors' recommendation for certification."

Connectivity Solutions Vice-President Les Cole, pleased with the auditors' recommendation for certification, reminds Works employ-

(Continued on Page 2)



Photo by Linda Ryan

Visitors welcome

Tina Gipe (center) and Barb Brown took advantage of an ETOP-sponsored open house in January to check out classroom facilities for the Machine Tool Technology Program and the Electronics Technology Program. Retired Works machinist Ken Deman serves as tour host in the machine tool lab, where he now works as a training lab assistant. For more about the open house, turn to Page 5.

Service **ON TIME!**

There's more than one way to make sure our customers get their orders by the dates we've promised to deliver. For the first in a series of articles about the things we're doing to ensure we give customers the best service possible, turn to Page 6.

ISO 14001 registration is recommended

(Continued from Page 1)

ees that the challenge to maintain a quality environmental management system does not fade with the completion of the audit.

"We must continue to look for ways to reduce pollution, reuse materials and recycle wherever possible," he said.

ISO 14001 registration lasts for three years. Once it is granted, the Works' environmental management system will be subject to surveillance audits every six months. A recertification audit will be conducted at the end of three years to determine whether or not the Works will retain its registration status for another three years.

Let's hear another round of applause

When we're hot, we're hot! The Works already has received official notice that it once again has earned OSHA's VPP (Voluntary Protection Program) Star Status.

VPP Star Status is OSHA's top recognition for safety in the work-

place, an honor we first achieved in 1994. Specifically, it recognizes us for our safety program which has goals that go beyond compliance with OSHA standards, focusing on improved safety awareness and better cooperation between OSHA, labor and management to prevent workplace-related accidents and injuries.

Recertification to Star Status was granted after the Works passed a five-day audit conducted by OSHA representatives last year.

In celebration of the recertification, employees who attended special safety meetings held in the auditorium in January each received gift ceramic piggybanks imprinted with the Works' new safety slogan for 1998, "You can bank on safety."

A thank-you from Lydia House

Betty Diaz, administrator of the Lydia House—a local domestic abuse shelter for women and children—has sent a personal letter of thanks to the people of Lucent's Omaha Works who contributed to an in-plant drive last December for personal and household items.

With collection bins placed at plant entrances/exits, the drive was spon-

sored by the Works' chapter of WILL (Women In Leadership at Lucent) in memory of deceased employee Frances Schon.

One truckload and four carloads of items, ranging from clothing to linens to toiletries, were donated and delivered to the shelter, said WILL's Sharon Justsen who headed the drive. In addition, several hundred dollars in cash donations were turned over to the shelter.

This is the first drive of its type that the WILL chapter has sponsored, Justsen said, adding that the group will likely make it an annual event.

More information about the local WILL chapter and other of its activities is available by contacting one of its officers: Cathy Placzek, president; Sharon Foster, vice-president; Deana McGaugh, secretary; or Joy Jones, treasurer.

For students with disabilities

Reminder: The Lucent Technologies Pioneers organization is sponsoring a number of educational scholarships for students with disabilities.

Financial assistance is being offered

(Continued on next page)

THE HEADLINER

The Headliner is an internal newsletter of the Omaha Works, published eight times yearly. It is produced by the public relations department and printed by the Works' print shop.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. Direct them to:

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Valentine's Bash

Saturday, Feb. 14



*Millard American Legion Post #374
Dancing to the JMH Band*

*Sponsored by the Heartland Pioneers
Social hour: 6 - 7 p.m.
Dinner: 7 - 8 p.m.
Dancing starts at 8:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$17/Pioneer members
\$20/non-members*

Contact Sally Swoboda, X3854 or Larry Cherry, X3523



Imagine playing golf
without a tee.

You don't have to.
Because someone
imagined playing golf
with one.

"Black Inventors & Their Inventions"

A display featuring artifacts and articles about African American inventors, spanning the 1800s through 1950.

On display now in the main cafeteria through the month of February, in observance of African American History Month.

Sponsored by the Omaha Chapter of ABLE
(Alliance of Black Lucent Employees)

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to help physically or mentally
challenged students pursue their
education.

Applicants must be of grade school
through college age. However, they
do **not** have to be related to Lucent
employees to qualify.

More information about the scholar-
ships is available by calling Ginny
Van Scoyoc at 610-939-7300. But
don't delay: Applications must be
returned and postmarked by March
16, 1998.

Jan./Feb. service anniversaries

The following employees have
marked or will mark milestone service
anniversaries (in five-year increments) in
January and February 1998. The
anniversary date is given first, with service
years after the employee's name.

- 1/1—Forest Kilton-Pechar, 30.
- 1/2—Dean Frye Jr., 35; Alice Gilbert,
30.
- 1/3—Myron Wright, 30.
- 1/4—Judith Devault, 30.

- 1/5—Barbara McHughes, 25.
- 1/7—Ausrele Sakalas, 35.
- 1/8—Charles Wigginton, 15;
Weston Grunke, 15.
- 1/9—Alfred Lichtenegger, 20.
- 1/14—Eldon Odell, 35.
- 1/15—Amir Khabani, 25; Richard
Nightser, 35; Stacey Robertson, 30;
Thomas Gurney, 15; De Anna
Hendren, 15.
- 1/16—Jerry Ray, 20.
- 1/17—Richard Rose, 30.
- 1/18—Charles Stanley, 30.
- 1/19—Patricia Dunning, 20;
Dorothy Lonadier, 25.
- 1/21—George Ruckman, 35; Viola
Winnicki, 25.
- 1/22—Helen Latimer, 30.
- 1/23—Jerry Purnell, 30; Shelley
Anderson, 20; Harley Newman, 30.
- 1/24—Ann Wilson, 10.
- 1/25—Merlie Miller, 15.
- 1/26—Nancy Mentzer, 25.
- 1/27—Samuel Palermo, 40;
Kenneth Hrbek, 20.
- 1/29—William Maly, 30; Harold
Peterson, 40; Judith Roucka, 30;
James Tolston, 30.
- 1/30—Charles Singleton, 30.

- 2/1—Richard Runnels Jr., 10.
- 2/3—William Eisele, 25.
- 2/4—Richard Metzler, 35; Charles
Junge, 15.
- 2/5—Roger Kolodziej, 30; George
Shelton, 35; Janet Sharples, 15;
Timothy Connor, 15.
- 2/6—John Schenkelberg, 20.
- 2/8—Cynthia Schaecher, 15.
- 2/12—John Faust, 30; Robert
Renter, 35.
- 2/15—Sharon Christiansen, 25;
Jeffrey Nielson, 10; Linda Walker, 15.
- 2/16—Anita Romero, 20.
- 2/19—Steven Brown, 15.
- 2/20—Connie Jones, 25; Loren
Berggren, 40.
- 2/21—Ron Kelly, 30.
- 2/22—Jane Peters, 15; Beverly
Prather, 30;
- 2/23—Stephen DeYoung, 25.
- 2/24—Brenda Geyza, 15.
- 2/26—Robert Barnes, 35; Mary Ann
Pilus, 25.

Omaha Works retirements

The following employees recently
retired from the Omaha Works.
Effective retirement dates appear first.

- 12/30/97—Richard Eastman, 31
years; Louis Carnazzo, 39 years; Gary
Hacker, 30 years; Glenna Oltman, 34
years.
- 1/1/98—Ken Mass, 33 years.
- 2/3—Shirley Dwyer, 30 years.
- 2/10—Dale Thurman, 38 years;
Leota Tweedy, 39 years.

Product quality rates an 'A'

Quality Assurance has awarded the
following IBUs the grade of "A" for
their product quality achievements for
the January 1998 rating period:

- IBU C1C—DSX.
- IBU C12—189, 190, 300 building
entrance protectors; plug-in and
screw-in protector units.
- IBU C14—11-type cable stubs.
- IBU C15—110 wiring blocks;
premises connection products.
- IBU C17—Injection molded

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NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from previous page)
products.

IBU D17—Broadband cabinets; feeder distribution products; wireless cabinets.

IBU D19—Connector products.

IBU 200—Miscellaneous products.

F22—Central pack; NTT packing.

EW&C—DFW, cross, hookup wire; coaxial cable; inside wire cable; LAN cable.

Lucent posts 31% profit gain in first quarter

Lucent Technologies reported that net income increased 31 percent to a record \$1.124 billion or \$1.72 a share for the first fiscal quarter that ended Dec. 31, 1997, excluding a one-time charge associated with the acquisition of Livingston Enterprises, and a one-time gain associated with the sale of the company's Advanced Technology Systems (ATS) business.

This compares with the net income of \$859 million and earnings per share of \$1.35 in the year-ago quarter.

The company's revenues for the first quarter of its 1998 fiscal year were \$8.724 billion, an increase of 16 percent on the company's continuing operations and an increase of 10 percent on overall revenue from the year-ago quarter, when total revenues were \$7.938 billion.

"Our sales to network service providers were particularly strong this quarter," said Rich McGinn, Lucent CEO and president.

"Revenues grew more than 18 percent over last year's record quarter, led by robust sales of switching and wireless systems, and software."

Within Lucent, revenues for Systems for Network Operators increased 18.2 percent to \$5.943 billion, revenues for Microelectronics Products increased 15.5 percent to \$775 million and revenues for Business Communications Systems increased 11.4 percent to \$1.93 billion, compared to the year-ago quarter.

Comparing calendar year 1997 with 1996, Lucent's revenues for continuing operations increased 19 percent. For the same period, total revenues increased 14 percent to \$27.146 billion.

McGinn, meanwhile, soon will be named chairman of Lucent, succeeding Henry Schacht. The appointment will be effective immediately following the company's annual shareholders meeting Feb. 18, 1998.

Optical networking system 'raises bar'

To meet phone companies' demands for more robust transmission capacity, Lucent has unveiled an 80-channel, global optical networking system: WaveStar™ OLS 400G.

It can transmit 400 billion bits of data per second over a single strand of fiber. That's equivalent to carrying the per-second traffic of the entire worldwide Internet over one fiber.

"Lucent is really raising the bar for its competitors," commented industry

analyst Michael Arellano.

AT&T has already announced that it will be the first to deploy Lucent's new system, which generally should be available by the fourth quarter of 1998.

The new system delivers five times the bandwidth of current systems. It can be configured to handle up to eight fibers, each transmitting 400 gigabits per second, giving communications providers a maximum capacity of 3.2 trillion bits (terabits) per second of voice, video and data traffic.

That's equivalent to transmitting more than 90,000 volumes of an encyclopedia in one second.. At this triple terabit rate, providers can realize equipment cost savings up to 40 percent over lower-capacity systems.

In memoriam

Danny Dockweiler, senior production specialist in IBU B16, Dec. 23, 1997.

Jay Ridenour, production specialist in IBU C14, Jan. 17, 1998.

Bonnie Hampton, production specialist in IBU B1A, Jan. 27, 1998. ■

Weoma Club BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Dates have changed!

March 27 - 29

April 4 - 5



Western Bowl
\$1 per game!
Great prizes!

Contact:

Kathy Scott, X3292

Tim O'Connor, X3507

Ethel Payton-Mickel, X7027

SIGN UP BY MARCH 6!

Machine tool, electronics labs on display

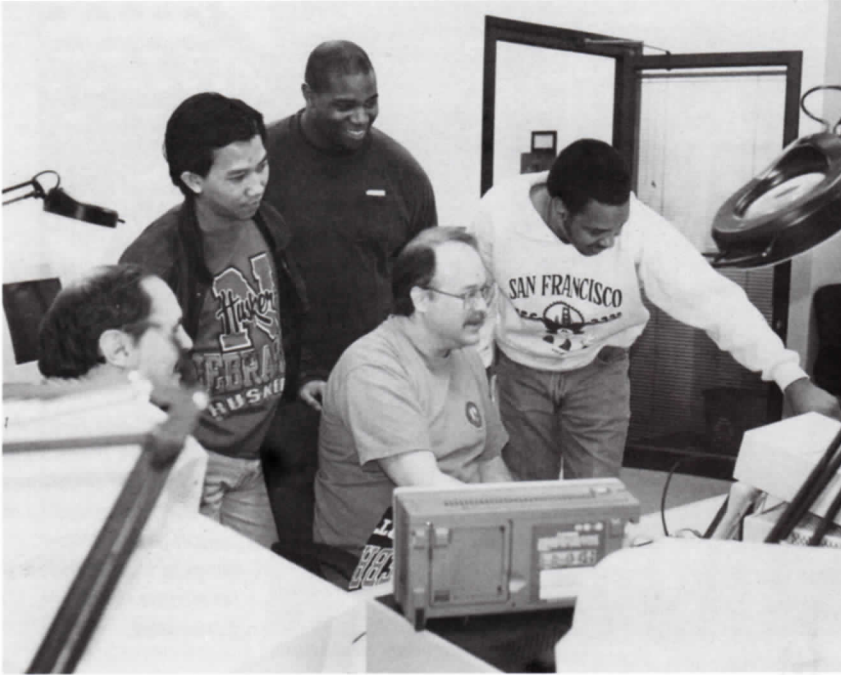


Photo by Linda Ryan

ELECTRONICS LAB... The open house drew visitors from all three shifts, like these first- and second-shift employees visiting the electronics technology laboratory. Part-time instructor Bill Pulte (far left) chats with his guests Dan Kalkowski (seated, then moving clockwise), Mike Le, Keith Tooley and Jeff Wright.

Unless you were a student in one of the programs, you'd likely never set foot in the Machine Tool Technology or the Electronics Technology Programs laboratories located in the southwest corner of Building 30. The on-site training the programs provide is unique within Lucent and the industry.

Employees from all three shifts were invited to see state-of-the-art classroom equipment and visit with instructors during an open house held in January. Family members of current program students also toured facilities on a Saturday afternoon in January.

Two sessions of the two-year machine tool program are currently running, with 79 students enrolled. Millard Carnes of Southeast Community College and retired Works engineer Art Clausen are full-time instructors. Retired machine, tool and die employees Ken Deman, Gary Lemond and Frank Holocheck Jr. are lab assistants.

Eighteen students are enrolled in two sessions of the electronics program, meeting three days a week. Steve Hall of Metropolitan Community College is the full-time instructor, assisted part time by Bill Pulte. ■

Reading program has Pioneer support

Local Heartland Council Pioneers are sponsoring a reading program, in partnership with a couple of Omaha area elementary schools, which they believe to be unique in the state.

The "I Like Me" project is a personalized reading program geared for kindergarteners and first graders, designed to encourage good reading habits and promote healthy self esteem at a critical early age, said Joan Siwa, project organizer for the Pioneers.

Complete with a daily lesson planner that teachers may choose to follow, the 12-week program includes reading books that are individualized for each student. The story line features characters that carry the student's name and several of those of his or her friends and pets.

The goal is to draw a child into the story, making it easier for him or her to relate to the lessons being taught. The lessons cover topics that touch on the importance of staying in school and working and playing with one another, as well as shunning drugs and gangs.

Publishers of the books say the program is being used in

schools elsewhere in the country, Siwa said, with about 50,000 books in circulation since 1995.

The Pioneers are purchasing the books and will distribute them at two schools in March, in time to use for the rest of the school year. Northwest Omaha's Prairie Wind Elementary School will receive 100 books for its kindergarteners and Holy Ghost School in South Omaha will receive 60 books for kindergarteners and first graders.

"The principals of these schools were elated that we approached them about the program. They said they have been looking for a reading program similar to this they could incorporate into their curriculums," said Siwa.

The Pioneers chose to pay the bill—which will amount to about \$1,000—for readers at just two schools initially. The plan is to survey teachers, parents and students about the program at the selected schools before deciding to offer it to other area schools, Siwa said.

If the program is well received, the Pioneers hope to get other businesses involved to help expand the program and underwrite its costs at local schools. ■



Photo by Linda Ryan

READY TO USE... Andrew Allen, who operates a connector panel assembly machine in IBU C14, prepares to move a truck full of PF terminals from his buffer stock closer to his machine. After reels are used on the assembly machine, "empties" are placed back on the truck. The truckload of empty reels are then returned to the punch press feeder shop, a signal that more terminals must be generated.

SIMPLICITY at its best

Sometimes the simplest solutions to a problem yield the best results. Often, those solutions are right under our noses, if only we'd look.

A continuing effort to reduce manufacturing cycle time within the Interconnection Products Group is a case in point. It has to do with a process improvement that was made affecting how PF terminals are supplied to the 300 central office connector panel assembly area.

A process improvement team consisting of supervisors, engineers, planners and production employees set out to find a better way to provide a steady supply of PF terminals to the connector panel assembly area. The team also wanted to ensure that there would always be enough buffer stock of the terminals to keep machinery running 24 hours a day on three shifts, five days a week (seven days a week when there is high demand).

The team decided on a formal kanban and buffer system approach that was introduced last November. (Kanban is a Japanese term referring to a method of inventory control.) It's a surprisingly simple but highly reliable visual approach that depends on empty reels and trucks to signal when stock is running low and more terminals need to be generated.

"Actually, the production team was already using a similar visual approach,

Promises kept

What are you doing to ensure that our customers get the service we've promised? Tell us about improvements you and your work group are making that guarantee quality service on time.

Contact Linda Ryan

Ext. 3795

E-mail: lindaryan@lucent.com

but it wasn't standardized," said Jahan Zeb, an engineer on the process improvement team. It needed to be formalized to compensate for things that might affect supply needs, such as a surge in orders or changes in operating equipment.

Simple arithmetic

So, what the team did was a matter of simple arithmetic. First, the panel assembly area demand for PF terminals was calculated for an entire week, based on those panels that use the maximum number of terminals. The final figures showed how many reels—all uniform in size—of terminals were needed per day and per week.

Next, the team calculated that 10 identical trucks—each carrying the same number of reels—were needed to hold a daily supply of the reels of terminals. Additional identical reels and trucks were purchased to handle the calculated figures. Also, it was determined that the punch press feeder shop, which supplies the terminals to the connector panel assembly shop, should operate on two shifts five days a week to produce the daily number of reels.

Last, a buffer system was defined: In the panel assembly area, the team decided there should always be six full truckloads of reels on hand, plus one truck of reels being processed. In the punch press feeder shop should be two full truckloads of reels, plus one truck being processed.

Reels from the truck being processed in the panel assembly machine shop are returned to the same truck when they are empty. When all empty reels are on the truck, it is returned to the punch press feeder shop and exchanged for a truck of full reels to be taken back to panel assembly. The empty truck being returned to the punch press area is the visual signal to run another truckload of PF terminals, thus maintaining a steady flow of terminals.

No time wasted

"We don't even have to wait for a manufacturing scheduling order" to begin a run of terminals, said punch press operator Jerry Fitzgerald. "We know by sight what needs to be done."

Also pleased with the kanban/buffer approach is Bonnie

Anderson of the connector panel assembly shop, citing the time that has been saved by not having to track down and wait for parts when PF terminal supplies run out. "It's eliminated a lot of headaches," she said.

So far, an application of this material management system has been made within the ground terminal assembly area, while a similar application in the patch panel and other areas is being considered, Zeb said.

"It's effective. It's more visible. You know instantly what you need. And it's much more flexible," he said, adding that the buffer stock is monitored. For example, if there are sudden drops or spurts in demand, "the buffer stock can be modified easily."

Although the approach is simple and affects a relatively small portion of our overall manufacturing operations, simple solutions like this throughout the Works collectively have a major positive impact on getting products out on time.

Simple or not, it's one approach a customer should like. ■

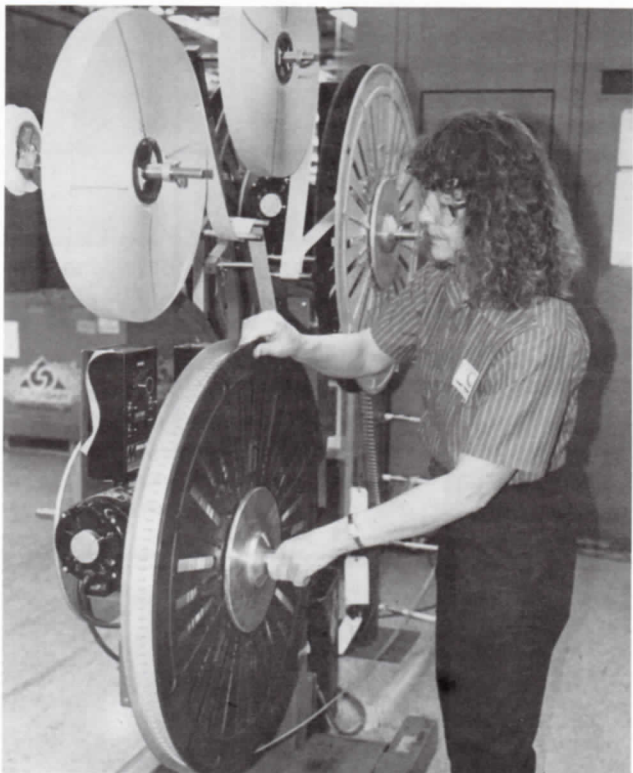


Photo by Linda Ryan

LOAD 'EM UP...Linda Jurgens of the punch press feeder shop prepares to run terminal stock through her machine for the connector panel assembly shop.

Holiday/Vacation Schedule

1998

Holidays observed

Standard Vacation Days

 Company-designated MPD/EWD

1999 Holiday: Jan. 1, 1999, New Year's Day

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
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OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
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Winter



Spring



Summer



Fall

Save for future reference