

WESTERNER

Omaha Works
First Quarter, 1991



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On the cover

Marie Swan reviews some of the finer points of certification with Greg Hughes, AT&T Network Cable Systems president, during a tour Hughes was taking of the 841 repeater case manufacturing area. Swan is a process checker in IBU 581, an area that recently became quality process certified. Hughes offered his congratulations to IBU employees, and to employees in other recently certified areas. For more pictures and story on certification, turn to Page 4.

WESTERNER

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Published quarterly by the Omaha Works
Print Shop for employees and retirees of
AT&T Network Systems
Omaha Works
P.O. Box 37000
Omaha, Nebraska 68137
402-691-3795



Labs foster better products, service

Southwestern Bell had a complaint. Our 710 connectors were cracking in buried splice applications.

Fortunately for our customer—and for us—we now have a new Bell Laboratories/Network Cable Systems Product Development facility on Works premises. A meeting with the customer in our labs made it possible to rectify the problem in short order.

The facility, located just north of the Works' auditorium, opened for business in late January of this year. An open house attracted more than 1,000 Works employees who toured nine different lab areas, a product development office and audio/video conference room.

Basically, the facility serves a threefold purpose, said Shervin Shamloo: Design, development and evaluation of copper apparatus products. Its function is to support Bell Laboratories engineering that originates out of Omaha. Shamloo, who coordinated the planning and construction of the Works facility, is a member of the Bell Labs technical staff based locally.

Back and forth

"Until now, all product development was done at the Whippany (N.J.) labs," Shamloo said. If an Omaha Works product required testing and evaluation, for example, it meant that Omaha plant engineers had to work long distance with Whippany engineers. Travel to and from the two locations was the norm.

How much better it would be if the Omaha Works had Bell Labs resources on premises that would save travel time and expense and

certainly quicken our response to a customer's needs.

The local facility contributes to more efficient teamwork and signifies a "commitment on the part of Omaha Works and Whippany management to support quality products," said Randy Duell, Bell Labs technical supervisor.

In addition to Duell and Shamloo, four other Bell Labs technical staff members and nearly a dozen Omaha Works tech-pros are responsible for operations in the Omaha facility. They include development facilities for finishes, protection products, central office cross-connect products, outside plant and customer premises products, and machine and test development. Also included are facilities for model fabrication, environmental testing and a qualifications lab.

See for themselves

An important advantage in having a local lab facility is being able to bring customers here to see for themselves how we design and evaluate products, Duell noted.

A customer doesn't have to wait to see how a new or enhanced product will perform in the field, for instance. "I can prove to the customer right here at the Works that the product will perform as expected," Shamloo explained.

Proof is what Bob Drach gave Southwestern Bell when a company representative visited to resolve the 710 connector problem.

Drach, a member of the Bell Labs technical staff, reviewed test data on 710s with the customer. He set up a "field environment" in the labs, complete with large-pair cable to demonstrate splicing,



LABS OPEN HOUSE...Planning engineer Dean Davis (above) tells visitors about a small milling machine used to build prototypes in the outside plant and customer premises products lab and Sandy Fitzgerald (left, top) of IBU 596 takes a peek at a printed circuit board through a precision measurement microscope. Meanwhile, Lynn Hapke (bottom) of IBU 597 runs a test on 710 connectors.

encapsulating and enclosing a series of 710 connectors in a "buried splice" application.

Using sophisticated, analytical equipment, "We showed the customer how connectors are affected if assembly is done improperly," Drach said. For example, is the tie wrap too tight? Are the connectors criss-crossed instead of parallel? Is there too little encapsulant? Was it mixed improperly? Have the installation tools been well maintained?

The customer left with a clearer understanding of installation techniques that likely will resolve Southwestern Bell connector problems, Drach said. From an AT&T perspective, we agreed to make improvements on installation tools to minimize maintenance.

Face-to-face communication like is with customers allows us to work together for improvements" and come to a mutual understanding that is conducive to problem resolution.

Without the satellite Bell Labs facility, "we probably would have written (SWB) a letter" about our findings, Drach noted. "That's a far cry from what we can do here."

Jay Carter heads Works

Jay W. Carter is the new manufacturing vice-president of the Omaha Works. Carter, whose appointment was effective Feb. 1, 1991, succeeds E. F. "JR" Newland, who is now customer service vice-president for the Western Region.

Most recently, Carter was regional vice-president for the Central Region, representing AT&T products to Ameritech and Cincinnati Bell.

Since he joined AT&T in 1979 he has held various management

positions, including director of sales for AT&T Network Systems and manager of market planning. From 1972 to 1979, he served in various engineering capacities for New York Telephone.

Carter is a native of Ossining, N.Y., and holds both bachelor of science and master of engineering degrees in industrial engineering/operations research from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

He has been active in community service, including serving on the directing board of the Chicago Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He also has been a member of the National Communications Forum Executive Advisory Council, and is president of the Cornell University Lightweight Football Alumni Association.

Carter and his wife, Julie, have two children.

Jay Carter



CERTIFIED!

There's no doubt about it. When it comes to quality process certification, the Omaha Works is on a roll.

When Network Cable Systems Greg Hughes visited the Works in mid-February, he had a full itinerary just making the rounds congratulating employees in recently certified areas.

As of March 7, 1991, a total of nine manufacturing areas had earned certification (and others were waiting in the wings at Westerner press deadline). This compares to a total of seven areas certified for the entire year 1990.

Quality engineering manager Chuck Meyers said, "Our objective

is to have everyone certified (more than 40 different factory areas) by June, and we should come very close to that target."

The Omaha Works has rededicated its commitment to obtain certification, Meyers noted, and that determination has been bolstered this year by the decision to award Omaha Team Works program shares to employees in certified areas. The shares may be used to "purchase" any variety of items from a gift catalog.

Certification also is a fundamental part of the Works' goals for 1991 and beyond, which include achieving registration to "ISO 9000," an internationally recognized quality

systems standard developed by the International Standards Organization (ISO).

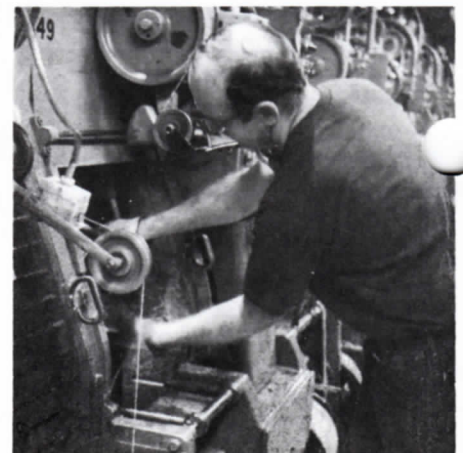
"If we measure favorably against the ISO's quality standards, it will increase our success in marketing our products outside the U.S. as well as within," Meyers explained. "It will help establish our presence as a world-class manufacturer."

The photos on these pages are representative of the people whose teamwork culminated in certification. On Page 7 is a listing of the team members under whose direction certification was achieved for the period of Jan. 1 through March 7, 1991.

(Continued on Page 7)



JOBS WELL DONE...NCS president Greg Hughes (above, center) had words of congratulations for members of the certification team whose areas were certified in the cable shop—central tinner (certified late last year) and fine wire draw. Karolyn Allen and Maxine Munch (above, left to right) worked on certification for the 2, 11, 125 and miscellaneous protectors area, while Don Shook (right photo) was part of the team for twist, repair, truck, scrap and process check area.





GO FOR THE GOLD...Wally Moore and Alice Lucas (clockwise, photo top left) were part of the team that won certification for the gold plating room; employees in the certified building entrance protectors (BEP) area listened to Greg Hughes on his consultative tour of Building 30; John Beckman (left in photo) and Arlo Olsen are representative of employees who earned certification for the central office stranding and jacketing areas in the cable shop; Hughes had personal words of congratulations for employees in the 300 central office connectors area.

Meet the customer

Southern New England Telephone counts on Omaha's prompt response to custom orders

"Where will the multiplexers be located?"

"How will the shelves be placed in the cabinet?"

"What kind of brackets will you use...and what kind of openings (for splicing) will they provide?"

Such were the questions addressed during a business meeting held in the Product Display Center with a customer of the Omaha Works, Southern New England Telephone (SNET).

Basic questions, yes, but nevertheless important. SNET's representative, Dan Reilly, was here on a fact-finding mission. As a telecommunications specialist on SNET's outside network engineering staff, Reilly came from Connecticut to collect product documentation to share with field personnel back home.

"They need to know what's coming, what's available," Reilly

explained, so they can decide which products they want to use.

An independent telephone company, SNET serves virtually the entire state of Connecticut and has about 1.5 million subscribers. AT&T account representative Mal Evans, who accompanied Reilly here, said that SNET is one of the Works' major customers of metal cabinets. SNET also has used other Works products that support loop electronics, such as DSX equipment, protector units, 307 protectors, 710 connectors and cable terminals.

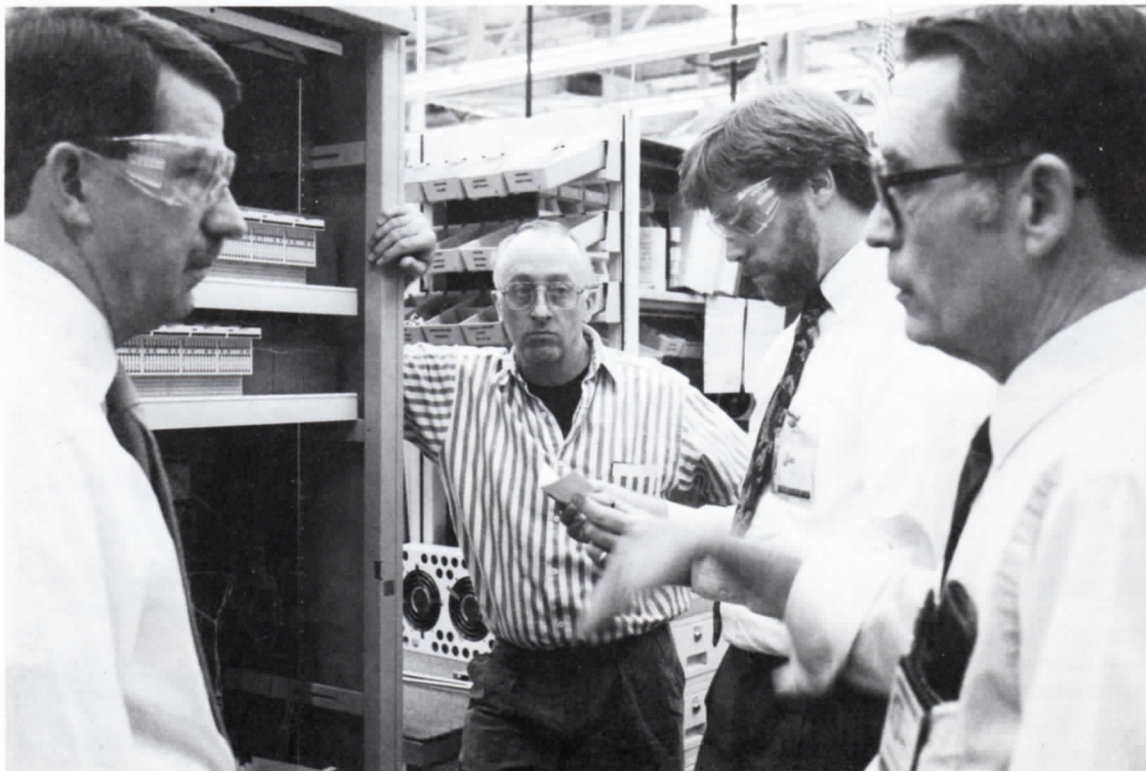
Measuring up

On this business trip, the focus was on 80-type product documentation and on a new 90-type cabinet configuration that's soon to be available. Reilly wanted to find out how the cabinet would measure up to SNET requirements.

Southern New England Telephone "likes being able to have us customize products for its specific needs," Evans said.

Reilly explained that SNET frequently requires specialized assemblies for its subscriber network. "Because of our size, we rely on AT&T to make the special configurations for us," he said. By comparison, the much larger Regional Bell Operating Companies (RBOCs) have internal resources to perform their own customized modifications; not so for smaller independent phone companies such as SNET.

Participating in the business meeting with Reilly and Evans were senior engineer Milt Almquist, (90-type cabinet engineering), and senior engineer Tom Blair (80-type cabinet engineering). Also at the meeting were Larry Bailey, cabinets engineering manager; Cynthia



SHOP TALK...A shop tour gave SNET's Dan Reilly (second from right) a chance to review production specifics on the 90-type cabinet with shop operator Charlie Newell (second from left) and senior engineer Milt Almquist (right). Account rep Mal Evans (left) likes taking customers through the Omaha shops because "you can talk to anyone doing any job and they can tell you what you need to know."

Thurman of the Atlanta-based product line management (PLM) organization; and Frank Markesi of the Product Display Center.

If the Works' standard product assembly jibes with SNET's specifications, so much the better. Reilly told the group that requesting too many modifications on a product runs the risk of compromising the quality control that's integral to a standard configuration.

"The closer (SNET's specifications are) to your standard," Reilly said, "the better for both of us."

SNET also prefers to place orders for products no more than a month in advance. That way, SNET has a more accurate appraisal of its schedule and can avoid swelling its inventory with unused products due to unforeseen delays. Therefore, SNET depends on the Omaha Works to respond with short order intervals.

JIT and turnaround

Out on a shop tour, Larry Bailey showed Reilly how the Works incorporates "just in time" (JIT) manufacturing to "continually try to drive our order intervals down."

For example, in the storeroom Reilly saw how cabinet parts are stored in smaller increments. As parts are used by the shop and the supply reaches a pre-determined level, reorders are placed so the stock is never depleted.

In the sheet metal shop, sheet metal is cut to fill all of the various shop orders on a daily basis, rather than cutting and stockpiling large quantities of only a few orders.

"This has cut down scrap tremendously because we don't have large stockpiles built up before any defects might be found (during assembly)," Bailey told Reilly. Steps like these keep product costs down and delays to a minimum for faster turnaround.

In the 90-type cabinet assembly area, Reilly met shop worker Charlie Newell who, along with Milt

Amquist, addressed specific concerns Reilly had about the cabinet.

Reilly appeared to be impressed by the accommodations and standard features that were discussed—right down to a unique wedge platform that makes moving the 90-type cabinet into place easier. Commented Reilly, "Neat...I like that."

CERTIFIED! continued

The following employees make up the certification teams for those areas that have been certified as of the first of the year and through March 7, 1991. As the Westerner goes to press, many more areas are being certified:

IBU 551—Fine Wire Process

Bob Koster
Dennis Gosch
Bob Belik
Cathy Placzek
Charles Gibbs
Jerry Glenn
Rick Novak
Marty Homes
Bob Holz
Gary Reese
Doug Brake
Paul Perez

IBU 551—Twist, Repair, Truck, Scrap & Process Check

Don Shook
Rich Krambeck
Duane Dolezal
Doug Brake
Robert Wright
Paul Pickrel
Joe Siracuse
Larry Fast
Joe Sternad
Gene Wills

IBU 552—Central Office Jacket and Sheath

(Team members rotate.)

John Tompkins
Jim Morris
Chuck Leyendecker
Jay Stewart
Kevin Ramplin
Bill Huetson
Lenis Campbell
Art Mackie
Henry Hill
Bill Brink
Dennis Swartz
Gene Wolski
Kenney Drake
Arlo Olsen
Dan Dockweiler
Larry Gosch
Reese Parks
Jack Guhl
Louie Pendrock
Jerry Grego
Jerry Moore
Harry Findeis

IBU 552—Central Office Strand

(Team members rotate.)

John Tompkins
Jim Morris
Chuck Leyendecker
Bernie Cork
Doug Brake
Bill Huetson
Gene LaChapelle
Harold Johnson
Harry Clawson
Norm Rohloff

Ron Brock
Dick Stevens
John Beckman
Dick Davis
Jim McManigal

IBU 581—841 Repeater Cases

Dolores Lusero
Rod Freburg
Bob Gillam
Marie Swan
Pat Rolf
Perry Krom
Sherry Anderson
Mike Durae
Sandy Achampaugh
Teresa Kealy
Dan Pfeifer
Carolyn Dooley
Bob Fenton
Julie Micklavzina
Gary Cook
Merle Seeman
Betty Ann Brown
Lanette Moore

IBU 582—Gold Plating Room

Butch Davis
Larry Griff
Wally Moore
Bill Pokorny
Jim Sempek
Don Moran
Dale Kreick
Steve Harlow
Joe Smith
Alice Lucas
Terry Kamino
Jim Kvetensky
John Synowicki

IBU 592—300 Central Office Connectors

Marilyn Boston
Vic Palma
Joe Avery
Bob Douglas
Francis Scott

IBU 593—2, 11, 125 & Misc. Protectors

Maxine Munch
Karolyn Allen
Larry Dolleck

IBU 596—Building Entrance Protectors

Carlos Chavez
Curtis Curry
Tony David
Karen Israelson
Ethel Payton
Jahan Zeb
Steve Schafer



Pat Hamilton's son, Mike, left for the Persian Gulf, a young man not yet 21. Now he is a war veteran.

So is Masako Holm-Hansen's daughter, Katrina; Ruby Stennis's son, Sanford; Bob Traugh's brother, Stephen; and Frank and Claudia Perchal's nephew, Doug.

And so are many other relatives and friends who have been in our thoughts and prayers from the beginning of Operation Desert Storm, even now as we await their return.

The initial months of 1991 have been a time of "high anxiety among all of us," noted Bill Ivins of the Works Employee Assistance

Honoring our own

Five employees of the Omaha Works were called to duty in the Persian Gulf. In deference to requests for privacy for their families, the names of these employees have not been publicized plantwide and will not be made public until their safe return. Upon their return, each will be a guest at a staff luncheon hosted by Works manufacturing vice-president Jay Carter. Each will receive a plaque in appreciation for service to our country, and given in the name of all Omaha Works employees.

TIE A YELLOW RIBBON...Bill Bystrom of Dept. 787 attaches a mammoth yellow bow to the flagpole in front of the Omaha Works. Cornhusker Chapter Pioneer Partners made the bow from yellow plastic bags when a suitable bow could not be found commercially in Omaha. The bow remains on the flagpole until our U.S. troops come home from the Persian Gulf War.

Until they come home

Program. "The moment-by-moment TV coverage brought the war into all of homes with shocking impact."

A nationwide upsurge in patriotism and public displays of support for the allied troops serving in the Persian Gulf stem in part from our need to channel our emotions.

"Just doing something constructive makes us feel useful and results in a general lowering of our anger, stress and anxiety," Ivins said.

As a corporation, AT&T made numerous contributions to the war effort, such as providing free or reduced phone service for our military men and women in Saudi Arabia. It set up toll-free number for military families to call about communications services and problems, and made monetary donations to the Red Cross Gulf Crisis Fund and the USO.

And at its phone centers, AT&T provided free FAX message service to Saudi Arabia, shortening normal mail delivery time. By the end of February, a million free FAX messages had been sent.

But it's been individual expressions of support like those shared by Omaha Works employees that have unified us in a crisis. Like the miniature American flags that sprung up almost overnight at time clocks and work stations throughout the shops and in offices areas.

One employee, the "Betsy Ross of the Omaha Works," devoted

many personal hours fashioning a nine-foot-wide flag to hang in her work area (IBU 596). Doris Little salvaged scrap ribbon from bags used by the plant trades department to make the detailed flag and red-white-and-blue shields and hearts to match.

Yellow roses

In IBU 597, employees have been wearing yellow "ribbon roses," courtesy of their co-worker, Joy Millie.

"I'm really not an arts/crafts person," Millie admitted. When war broke out, she thought about her brother's step-son and of some cousins serving in the Gulf. She

made a ribbon pin for herself, and then "everybody started asking me if I'd make one for them, too." She estimated that she has made and given away "at least 30 or 40."

Early in the conflict, Jerry Odell heard a request on a local radio station for used pantyhose to send to the troops. The sheer nylons were needed to protect various military equipment from the desert sand.

Odell set up collection boxes in the shop, and publicized the need for nylons in the WEOMA News and via the video news monitors. He managed to fill and deliver to the radio station a huge garbage

(Continued on Page 10)



OUR MILITARY HEROES...Tanis Faltin (left) and Pat Hamilton arrange a photo display of Works employees' relatives and friends serving in the Gulf.

Until they come home continued

bag of clean, used pantyhose to ship overseas.

Tanis Faltin and several of her co-workers in IBU 597 organized "Desert Storm Heroes" display boards in the main and cable shop mezzanine cafeterias. Faltin, Pat Hamilton, Virginia Barker and Sheryl Schuler asked employees to bring in photos of their relatives and friends who were serving in the Gulf.

Faltin typed the names of those pictured along with the names of those who brought them in. The "photo collage" that she and the other three women arranged on the boards will remain on display "until all our heroes return home," Faltin said.

Before coming to work on second shift, Vicki Eads of IBU 596 has been volunteering time to help Heartline Desert Shield. The non-profit organization was formed locally to give support and assistance to families of military personnel in the Gulf.

Eads said the group relies on donations (AT&T donated a computer for staff use) and volunteers to provide services such as baby-sitting and home and car repairs to mostly young wives of servicemen. Even now with the declared ceasefire and the gradual return of troops, the organization continues to help families sort through governmental paperwork so that benefits may be received on a timely basis.

Her volunteer service has consisted primarily of taking calls for assistance and making referrals, Eads said, adding, "there have been a lot of young reservists' wives in chaos."

Donor turnout

The desire to contribute in some way to the war effort had a noticeable impact on the Red Cross Bloodmobile visit in February. Employees from all three shifts came to the Works auditorium and donated 331 units of blood, nearly 40 more units of blood than was

donated in the September 1990 visit.

Bloodmobile organizer Dick Kubie surmised that concern over the war prompted more employees to become donors, when one might have expected a lower response due to recent retirements.

Bill Carson of IBU 551, who was standing in line to be a blood donor, said he hadn't donated blood in four years. He thought about his reservist son in college, not yet called to duty. Yes, he admitted, he was there in part because of the war.

Robin Allen of IBU 597 sat at a "juice and doughnuts" table with co-workers Paul Clark, Becky Beaty, Marie Lemke and Julie Springer, after they all had donated blood. Allen said it was only the second time she had donated since the first time in 1978. Reflecting on the possibilities of wartime casualties, she said, "they could use it."

"The Gulf Crisis has put added importance on giving blood," said



SOMETHING TO GIVE...Marilyn Tunstall (seated, left) and Betty Holz (center) wait for their turns to give blood during the February Bloodmobile visit. Neither had been a blood donor in the past.

Clark, who also last donated blood in 1978. "Before now, I never really thought about its value."

Springer agreed. She herself hadn't donated blood "since the '60s," she said. "Now, it's like it's the only thing I can do—I want to contribute in some way."

A little nervous

Marilyn Tunstall and Betty Holz, both of IBU 596, were waiting to have their temperatures taken when they explained why they came to give blood. Both admitted that they were apprehensive—neither had given blood before.

Said Tunstall, whose nephew is serving with the Army, "You know somebody over there—they're fighting. Somebody's going to need blood—maybe Scotty. I have to be there for him."

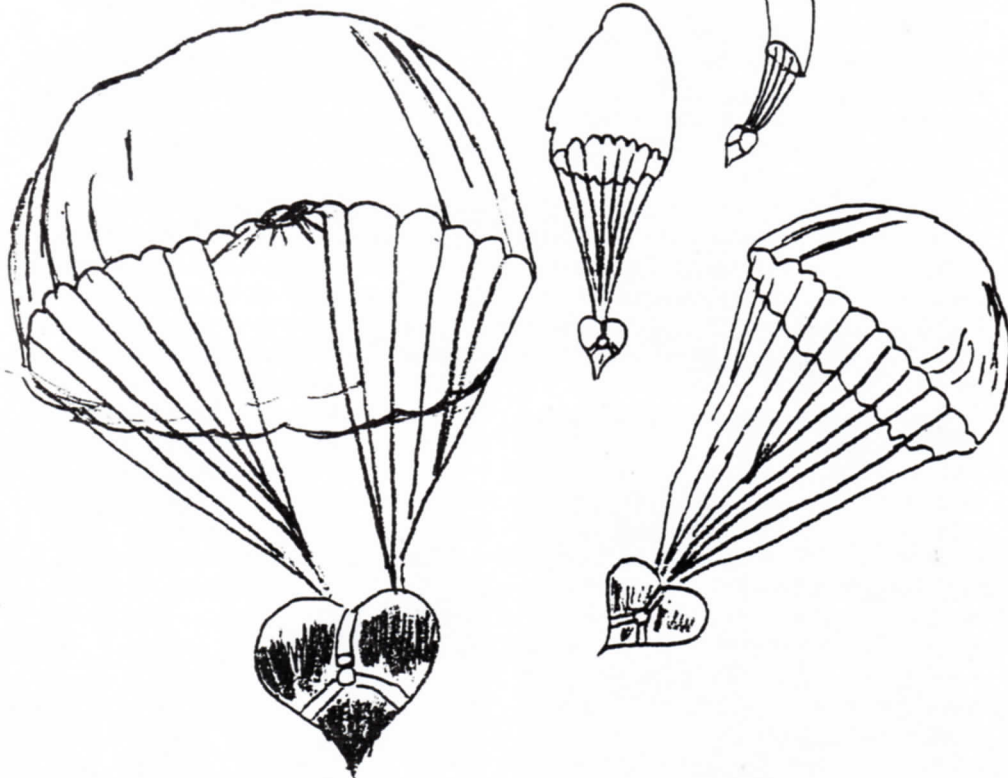
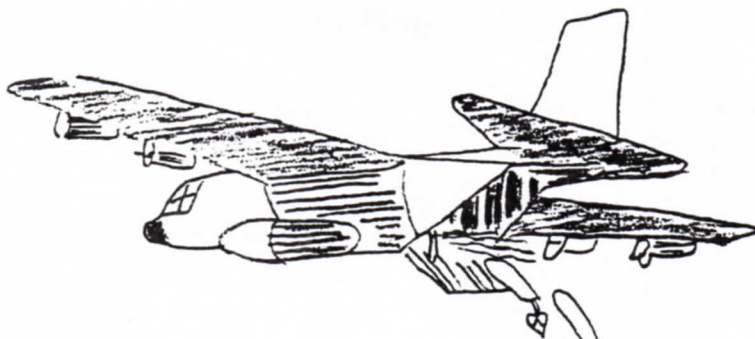
Holz mentioned her son serving in the Navy. "He has negative (type) blood—that's a rare type," she said. "I have negative blood, too...(giving) is the least I can do."

Fortunately for Tunstall and Holz—and all of us—the massive war injuries requiring blood that our troops might have suffered never occurred.

In fact, Tunstall's nephew was to be home by the end of March. Holz's son is back at his Navy base in Spain, and will return to the States for a family visit in July. "I'm feeling a whole lot better," said Holz.

But she and Tunstall still remember the concern they shared for their loved ones just a few weeks ago, and how precious life can be.

And when the Bloodmobile visits the Works again in May, Tunstall and Holz have vowed they will give blood again.



WHATS VALENTINES DAY WITHOUT
A LITTLE PARATROOPER FAITH HUH?
AS YOU SHOULD KNOW OUR FORCES
ARE DOING GREAT AND IM EVEN
DOING BETTER, SO DONT WORRY
ABOUT ME! ILL TRY AND WRITE
MORE. HOPE TO SEE YA SOON
LOVE ALWAYS
YOUR SON MIKE

HAVE FAITH...Pat Hamilton received this Valentine's Day drawing and greeting from her paratrooper son, Mike. Her son had not yet come home from the Gulf at Westerner press time.

etc.

E-Week observed

A full schedule of events which included a presentation by Dick Snelling, network executive vice-president of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph, marked this year's Omaha Works observance of National Engineers Week, Feb. 17-23. Snelling was guest speaker at a dinner gathering of tech-pros at the German-American Society hall.

The week's activities also included presentations by Network Cable Systems president, Greg Hughes; Switching Systems vice-president—U.S. Division, Joseph Colson Jr.; and 1976 Olympics gold-medal swimming champ, John Naber.

Two patents were presented to senior engineer John Mottine of Dept. 725, while Glenn Merriman and Mike Szymanski (both now retired) each received a patent. Tech-pros hosted students from Millard South High who are interested in engineering careers, taking them on tours of the plant.

Plans for this year's E-Week observance were coordinated by Kevin Pauba, Dan Staudt, Drew Lucas and Curt Shephany.

Historical perspective

The local chapter of the Alliance of Black Telecommunications Employees of AT&T sponsored a display in February on the great kings and queens of Africa. The display was set up in the main

cafeteria in observance of National Black History Month.

Nick Johnson (IBU 581), Bob Guyton (Dept. 748) and Curtis Curry (Dept. 741) assembled the display, which included examples of traditional African garb.

Chapter president Cid Stinson of Dept. 505 recounted some of the major accomplishments of the local organization for the past year.

Members participated in a voter registration drive last fall which contributed to "a record turnout of African-American voters in Omaha" in the November election, he said. The chapter also gave financial support to the Malcolm X Foundation, which seeks to establish a Malcolm X Birth Site International Center in honor of the Omaha-born African-American leader. It will include an amphitheater and radio station facilities.

The chapter continued its support of education for local African-American high school youths by

awarding three \$500 scholarships last May, and members organized Christmas food basket collections for 19 families in the African-American community.

Stinson said the Alliance has nurtured a strong working relationship with the local chapter of Hispa (Hispanic Association of AT&T Employees). In fact, the two chapters have established quarterly meetings with the Omaha Works manufacturing vice-president in which they may "work together on attaining mutual goals and reviewing concerns of the two organizations."

Egyptian contract

AT&T has signed an estimated \$10 million contract with the Arab Republic of Egypt National Telecommunications Organization, according to Larry Blanke of the Product Line Management (PLM) staff.

The contract provides for an all-



HISTORY LESSON...Joseph Colson Jr. (left), Switching Systems vice-president—U.S. Division, had a chance to view the display in the main cafeteria commemorating National Black History Month. With Colson, who was a speaker at E-Week activities, is Bob Guyton (center) and Curtis Curry.



AT&T communications system to established in three Egyptian sites. It calls for copper cable, approximately 400 40-type cabinets, closures, terminals, other miscellaneous apparatus and training.

"AT&T considers this contract to be a stepping stone to additional work in Egypt," Blanke noted.

Policy deployment

Focus groups representative of all employees have been meeting as part of an Omaha Works policy deployment project. The project is designed to communicate and achieve Network Systems goals, particularly with regard to leadership and employee involvement.

The focus groups are sharing their ideas and concerns on six specific areas targeted for improvement, said Ann Hindman, who is coordinating the project. Those areas are quality, communications, customer focus, leadership, supervision and performance appraisals.

Hindman said employees will be kept informed of the project's progress as changes and improvements are introduced, drawing from input from the focus groups.

Lotto what?

Carrying out its theme, "Be Bullish on Safety," the safety organization introduced a new safety awareness contest in January called "Lotto Bull."

Each week a randomly chosen employee has a chance to answer two safety-related questions. The correct answer to one earns a \$100 certificate to the Westroads shopping mall, while correctly answering the bonus question earns an additional \$50 certificate.

If one or both answers are incorrect, the respective certificate amounts are added to the next week's prizes, said safety supervisor Rich Schmitz. Questions are based on information found in a monthly safety fact sheet available to all

employees, and on safety videos that employees should see as part of their monthly safety meetings.

"There's potential to win big bucks should the questions go unanswered," Schmitz said. As of March 18, Alberta Brown of IBU 593 had won the largest prize worth \$900, and Judy White of IBU 581 won a \$300 prize.

"The questions are a little tougher than in past contests," Schmitz acknowledged, and they require that the fact sheets be read and the videos be seen. "But that's what makes it a real contest and a real safety program, too."

Schmitz thinks the contest has bolstered safety awareness. "People are reading the fact sheets and are taking their safety meetings much more seriously now," he said.

Omaha Team Works 1991

The Omaha Team Works continuous idea process has entered its second year of operation with a revamped structure, said Bob Barnes who oversees the program.

In March 1990, the idea process replaced the former employee suggestion program with the introduc-

tion of employee teams who work on and submit ideas. Employee teams whose ideas are accepted are awarded "shares" which may be used to "buy" a variety of items from a gift catalog.

Through March 1991, ideas that were accepted—most of which are in practice—have saved the Works more than \$6.6 million, Barnes said. That's roughly 55 percent of the original goal to save \$12 million.

That's not bad, considering the program was in its "building year," Barnes said. He added that the realigned program structure should bring about even better results in 1991.

"We've streamlined the program and made it easier for employees to relate to," he said. For example, this year teams have been functionally aligned by their IBUs—not cross-functional as they were last year.

"This way, supervisors will have a vested interest in the ideas the teams submit—they can turn people on to problem spots (to work on) in their own areas."

There are fewer employee teams this year than last, but Barnes is confident they will be productive.

There was a certain element of "curiosity seekers" on last year's teams, employees who now may have decided the program is not one in which they want to participate, he explained.

"I think the employees currently participating are very serious about the program—they're very energetic. I'm expecting good things to happen."

OMAHA
TEAM
Works

Service anniversaries

30 years

William Deegan 1/04
 Harold Bloodsworth 1/27
 Jerry Richey 2/03
 Helen Hoschar 3/11

25 years

Joan Hinkle 1/01
 Albinas Benkis Jr. 1/03
 Norman Wemhoff 1/03
 Elden Nihsen 1/04
 Thomas Foutch 1/04
 Harolyn Ostrand 1/08
 Jerry Levi 1/10
 Victor Volkart 1/10
 Betty Drews 1/17
 Mary Van Ampting 1/17
 Willard Scott 1/21
 Carnelle Green 1/23
 Sandra Prue 1/23
 Ronald Ashbrook 1/24
 Georgetta Callaghan 1/24
 Gladys Aldrich 1/25
 David Gurney 1/25
 Jerry Gagner 1/25
 Donald Pierce 1/26
 Perry Vogel 1/31
 Andritta Flemings 1/31
 Richard Melia 1/31
 Rosser Callihan Jr. 1/31
 Paul Pickrel 2/01
 Thomas Luther 2/01
 Robert Majeski 2/01
 Ronald Ohme 2/02
 Marlene Majeski 2/02
 Walter Ruff Jr. 2/02
 Paul Bracken 2/06
 Richard Huss 2/07
 John Armbrust 2/07
 Stanley Swoboda Jr. 2/07
 John Pechar 2/07
 Todd Cornwell 2/07
 Delwin Wilke 2/09
 Constance Rue 2/09
 Jim Orosco 2/10
 Charles Holt 2/14
 Giles Gardner 2/14
 Louise Johnson 2/15
 Anthony Militti 2/15
 Elizabeth Miller 2/17
 Steven Smith 2/18
 Walter Dardon 2/21
 Wilma Watson 2/21
 Kenneth Stricklett 2/21
 Richard Eastman 2/21
 George Landmichael Jr. 2/22
 Robert Dinslage 2/22
 Lula Reed 2/24
 Irene Ward 2/28

Theresa Stefan 2/28
 Dean Strehle 2/28
 James Shusta 3/01
 James Curbeam 3/07
 James Bunting 3/07
 Francisco Velasquez 3/07
 Carolyn Baker 3/08
 Thomas Heim 3/10
 Deloise Stinson 3/13
 Howard Leonard Jr. 3/14
 Barbara Leubbert 3/15
 Elizabeth Weil 3/16
 Ronald Willms 3/22
 Beverly Thoms 3/23
 Rosa Pagan 3/23
 William Lane 3/23
 Earl Waldron Jr. 3/24
 William Lawson Jr. 3/28
 Robert Fleming 3/28
 James Butler Jr. 3/31

20 years

Berdeena Chase 1/07
 Jack Ladonald 1/10
 Donovan Kohls 1/10
 Monnie Walters 1/12
 Willie Davis 1/20
 Harvey Marx 1/22
 Alice Hart 1/27
 Jimmy Peterson 1/29
 Edith Riester 2/07
 Joann Bolinger 2/25
 James Saner 2/26
 Thomas Rosencrans 2/28
 Norma Honomichl 3/06
 Mary Vondra 3/14
 Joyce Maxson 3/16

15 years

Sarah Vohs 1/02
 Jeanette Harris 1/09
 Lillian Schott 1/27

Eileen Wagner 2/18
 Joanne Dau 2/28
 Martha Gillham 3/01
 Linda Nutting 3/01

10 years

John Krance 1/23
 Donna Hutzell 1/26
 Donna Nielsen 1/28
 Carol Sears 2/19
 John Herrmann 3/03
 Susan Addison 3/09
 Brenda Spraling 3/28
 Mainor Thomas 3/30
 David Barnhart 3/31
 Diane Ruther 3/31

5 years

Joni Roberts 1/03
 Betty Holz 1/06
 Kathleen Hansen 1/06
 Theresa Kroeger 1/06
 Joseph Ksiazek 1/06
 Joann Hrabik 1/06
 Richard Murray 1/06
 Roseann Belik 1/06
 David Martin 1/13

Retirements



Regina Fuksa
33 years



Paul Challgren
44 years



Norma Hopkins
25 years



Frank Drebot
37 years



Ruth Engler
31 years



Chuck Landers
33 years



Lucy Walls
21 years



Darrel Hutchison
33 years



Rose
Laschansky
21 years



James Johnsen
24 years



Yvonne
Christensen
34 years



Al Drozda
34 years



Doris Elliott
20 years



Francis Scott
31 years



Adeline Pettitt
12 years



Ken Adams
31 years



Sheila Moberg
26 years

Not pictured:

Mary Ardery—29 years
Dixie Curry—25 years
Gerald Daugherty—20 years
Allen Ellefson—32 years
Theresa Farnan—30 years
Joan Geppi—33 years
Merlin Gerch—28 years
Enish Gills Jr.—21 years
Robert Hartsock—35 years
Walter Hillebran Jr.—31 years
Lorene Johnson—22 years
Margaret Kennedy—28 years
Pat Kratina—30 years
Arlette Larsen—10 years
Eva Lessig—25 years
Hal Lyons—18 years
Clara McCoy—24 years
Robert Oliver—24 years
Gerhardt Petereit—21 years
Val Pleskac—29 years
Mary Ann Rohman—17 years
Yvonne Russell—21 years
Margaret Rutledge—28 years
David Salzman—25 years
Irene Schmidt—27 years
William Schmidt—23 years
Rita Shimonitz—20 years
George Siggers—29 years
Winston Smith—35 years
Dale Sundquist—32 years
Norma Turner—19 years
Guy Tramp—32 years
Lanny Weaklend—30 years
Jean Willey—26 years



Photo courtesy of Oscar & Associates, Inc.

Last frame

Welcome to the AT&T display area at the ProMat '91 international materials handling trade show.

Phil Warren and Chuck Sipe set up a display on AT&T's Material Flow Control System (MFCS) at the four-day event that was held in Chicago in February. MFCS is a software system that

uses bar codes and wireless computer terminals to track inventory and activities from supplier to customer.

Assisting them at the trade show were Wade Phillips and Vern Larson of AT&T's regional product consulting and sales support staff based at the Omaha Works. They exhibited Systemax® premises distribution system products and fiber optics, which support MFCS.

"We got some good leads from the show," Sipe noted, mentioning that one potential customer visited the Works in March for a demonstration of how MFCS is used at the plant.

Some 26,000 persons attended the trade show, which is the first major show for 1991 in which MFCS has been exhibited. AT&T was among nearly 500 companies who represented all sectors of the materials handling industry.

Warren, who is MFCS product manager at the Works, expects sales to grow in 1991. He added that a full-time AT&T Account Management representative, Tom Moore, has been assigned to represent MFCS.

In the photo, Wade Phillips (left, facing camera) is talking with a customer, as is Chuck Sipe (far right).



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