

152 ideas have been submitted for evaluation since the OMAHA TEAM WORKS program began March 5.

Employee Involvement

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Today
Omaha Works



Evaluation Committee Member BETTY ORLEY congratulates members of Team C58411 including (standing l. to r.) JERRY DANAHY, RON CARTER, MICHAEL ELVERS, coach JIM MURPHY and DAN LANGDON and (front l. to r.) CARL JONES, GARY BRUMMETT and BILL TIFFT. Not pictured is BOB SOPPE.

Now that's a good idea!

The Omaha Works will enjoy \$23,635 in savings as a result of good thinking on the part of one of the plant's idea teams.

The team suggested 15 surplus boxcars be sold for scrap. The train cars have been sitting on the north yard storage track since the mid 1980s.

Team member JERRY DANAHY says the cars "originally brought in material from Chicago, Kearny, Buffalo and Baltimore and were stored in these cars when the storeroom couldn't hold the sudden influx of material. Now, we just don't need them."

Evaluation Committee Member BETTY ORLEY says "I'm terrifically proud of these guys and I expect more to come."

The self-formed team is composed of members that work in the scrap area, and operate or repair fork lift trucks. Each member was awarded 29,800 share points when the idea was accepted and will receive the same when the idea is implemented.

First in the factory...

OMAHA TEAM WORKS team B50131 is the first to be awarded shares for the acceptance of an idea under the new Continuous Quality Improvement Process (CQIP).

The team suggested Omaha Works employees do minor repairs on the cutter machine in the print shop, eliminating the need for an outside contractor. The idea results in savings of \$262.

Team leader JUNE CHRISTIANSEN says "We've got some really neat team members and we generate ideas from each other."

The team's coach is LUCY ALBA-KLUSAW, section chief in the print shop.

Each team member received 750 shares for the idea.

Joanie says "I'm saving for pots and pans"--Paul "wants a VCR" and June's "excited about earning a computer" from the prize catalog.



Team members include BOB DOIDGE, CLEM MINOR, LINDA CASHIOLI, JOANIE BEHLER and JUNE CHRISTIANSEN (all of the print shop and office services), PAUL QUANDAHL and HAROLD COOK of Purchasing and MARILEE MULLEN of Engineering.

Meet "Golden Boy"



DICK McGAUGHEY, one of our cable shop managers, called us up one day, asking "what the heck is that statue?" on anniversary watches and rings. So we called the folks at AT&T's archives who told us:

The Spirit of Communication, known as "Golden Boy", is the 24-foot bronze statue that stood atop AT&T's lower Manhattan headquarters for 64 years.

The work of Beatrice Longman, it was erected on Oct. 24, 1916, and was originally called "The Genius of Electricity." The statue was removed for restoration in 1980 and then placed on the lobby of the company's new headquarters building at 550 Madison Avenue in 1983. The statue and its granite pedestal rise 45 feet into the soaring six-story lobby.

The Genius of Electricity gained fame in the 1930s when a line drawing of the symbol began appearing on nearly every Bell System telephone directory in the country.

In the December 1916 issue of THE TELEPHONE REVIEW, reporter Dorothy Thorne said: "The sense of speed emanating from the whole statue--from the lightning bolts, from the long swing of the cable, the straight, alert posture of the body and from the mighty sweeping wings, themselves the very symbols of speed, is yet constantly tempered by the strength, calmness and control which every line expresses."

Don't pay HAND-somely!

Each of your hands weighs less than a pound, but they're among the most versatile and valuable tools you have.

A major portion of the brain coordinates their movements. Hands are one of the most complex parts of the body. They're made up of 27 bones, muscles, nerves and skin.

Protect your hands. They're more valuable than you may know.

Getting along with others

To get along with others:

- Make few promises, but keep the ones you make if you want to be trusted
- Learn to praise good work, no matter who did it
- Have empathy. Make merry with those who rejoice, mourn with those who suffer
- Keep an open mind. If you're the only one coming up with the right answers, something's wrong.
- Discuss, don't argue.
- Let your merits speak for themselves, but be ready to discuss them when asked.

News on your benefits

Each person will still have one deductible per person of \$150 with a maximum of \$450 per family. But in 1990, a trip to the hospital--IF IT'S THE FIRST MEDICAL BILL OF THE YEAR--means you'll meet your deductible much sooner than in previous years.

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QUESTION: What two words contain the most letters?

ANSWER: Post office.

Another certification announced

The third copper apparatus area to become certified is the ARTOS area (IBU 572) in Bldg. 30. Workers in the area do wire stripping and cord cutting, which fills the material needs of many other copper apparatus IBUs. The area has no customers outside the Omaha Works.

"The strategy was to get the feeder type operation certified first because that purifies the product going through all operations," according to Manager BOB WUSTRACK. Four operators on two shifts cover the area's needs.

Operator ERIC PETERSON says certification really is "documenting all the work you've always done before." He recommends "be thorough because a lot of things you take for granted people know, they don't--especially when there's an audit. It helps if the people looking at your manual aren't from your area. They give you more and better ideas."

Good reports from Denver

The group from the cable shop that visited the Denver Works last week is back in Omaha. Look for this teamwork story in the next issue of EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT TODAY.

Goodbye and good luck!

to Mfg. V.P. JACK MCKINNON...off to new challenges at the Merrimack Valley Works in North Andover, Massachusetts. McKinnon began his career with AT&T as a product engineer at Merrimack Valley in 1962. He assumed his Omaha V.P. duties in April 1986.

A cynic is a man who, when he smells flowers, looks around for a coffin. --H.L. Menchen

Flow is the key



MEET THE TEAM WHO DID THE JOB!...(back row, 1. to r.)-- IRISH DONAHOO, RICH DeCHRISTE, DEAN DAVIS, DON DAI, and LARRY DUROS. (Front, 1. to r.) DON STREETER, MELVA NICHOLSON, COLLEEN LIPERT, and DENNIS BAGLEY.

JIT principles have done wonders in the packing operation for the LTA tool in IBU 582.

"We had a heck of a time deciding how we wanted to do it!" says Operator DENNIS BAGLEY. The self-formed JIT team came up with a space-saving, money-saving, work-saving idea has been implemented and Bagley says "the flow of material is great."

And to think it all started when Operator DON STREETER got what he thought was a crazy idea--"Why don't we put doors on both sides (of the secured area) and let the stuff flow through?"

According to Engineer DEAN DAVIS, the efforts were so effective in the areas of material handling and efficiency that "we were able to reduce the need to two people so we could utilize the third person's efforts in making tools."

The changes relocated the LTA tool pack area closer to the manufacturing area, cut travel time and improved product flow through a conveyer system.

bus 9 to paradise

A Loving Voyage by Leo
Buscaglia

The only certitudes I've found in life are death and change. One is an end, the other a beginning. Change is life. Without change there would be no growth, no understanding, no relating and no surprises. We are by nature changing beings. Still, we seem to fear and resist it more than any other aspect of life.

Healthy human beings welcome the opportunity to adapt to new experiences. In fact, they're quite comfortable in a constant state of change. They are alive to the possibility of becoming someone new each moment. Only apathy and habit prevent the rest of us from having the same outlook.

When we don't care or resign ourselves to patterns and routines, we begin to stagnate. We are prone to accept the comfortable illusion that life is a series of habits and conditioned responses. In actuality, this is a comfort more like a disease which leads to a kind of intellectual and emotional

death. We can allow ourselves and a dynamic world to go to waste. Ellen Glasgow, an American novelist, said "The only difference between a rut and a grave are the dimensions."

To accept new ideas and give up old values and habits is not always comfortable. It is often easier for us to deny that there may be more appropriate, more creative possibilities for our lives. We fail to understand that when we resist these potentialities, life becomes at best a continual struggle; at worst, it passes us by and we are left alone and lonely.

We constantly hear there are people who will never change, that they can't change for one reason or another. It's a familiar litany and utter nonsense! Change is always possible unless our brain has stopped functioning. It is a choice that need not be wrenching or threatening. Adapting to life's currents is a natural process and, in the final analysis, the path of least resistance. (Submitted by TOM ABBOTT, IBU 584)