

Employee Involvement

Today



August 14
1990

AT&T Issue 19

Omaha
Works

New Employee Information System comes to the Omaha Works

Manufacturing Vice President **JR NEWLAND** has announced that a closed-circuit television news system will be operational at the Omaha Works by early fall. The text messages will be updated daily with news of Omaha Works current events, production, Just-in-Time, certification and Omaha Team Works information.

Newland says "accurate and timely communication is essential to effective teamwork. We must use every means, every technology available to assure each SBU/IBU member knows what's going on. This system supports that goal."

Sixteen 26-inch video monitors are now being installed in the main cafeteria as well as in the Bldg. 30 and 50 cafeterias. Employee Information Centers are being set up in these three areas where updated Works news will be available on a daily basis. The style of the text messages are very similar to that of some cable TV transmissions. Initially, audio capabilities of the system will not be utilized. The Omaha Works system is made possible by a fiber-optic backbone installed last year. The Atlanta Works has a similar closed-circuit system.

The news will be updated each day before 9 a.m. by **LINDA RYAN, BOB CARLSON** and **LINDA ENTERLINE** of the

public relations organization with the assistance of **MAXINE ALTIC**. Technical support is provided by PR's **ROGER HOWARD** and **FRED COTTONE, ROD CONSER** and **RHETT ZEPLIN** of the engineering organization.

Public Relations Manager **GENE SAAB** says "this is going to be a great addition to our communication program; but this system isn't going to work without the help of people willing to contribute information. Everyone has a chance to be a reporter. That's what is going to make this project work."

It's as simple as this...

Pick up a message request form from your department secretary, fill it out, get your DC's signature of approval, and return the form to the drop tray near column 1S in the PR department. The message request can also be placed in the company mail. Forms must be returned by noon the day before the message is to begin running,

Fiber optic backbone makes TV possible. Read the story on page 3.

Shop Talk

by **Cid Stinson**, trainer

Quite often, some of the best suggestions for one area are already in practice in another area just across the aisle.

When you're looking for ideas for the OMAHA TEAM WORKS suggestion program, it might be helpful to see what's being done in other departments. There might be something you can use in your area.

Case in point: Team leader **BILL STONER**'s group C58282 noticed that metal scraps were being segregated in an area across the aisle and were being sold back to the metal processing plants.

Team members **DENNIS VLCEK** did some research and discovered that if the members of IBU 582-2 segregated their metal scrap, just like the folks across the aisle, a considerable amount of revenue could be generated in 582-2 as well.

I asked Bill and Dennis "What was the toughest part of the process?" They laughed and said that when the plan was first implemented, they often found themselves picking trash and other contaminants out of the scrap barrels. It's tough work, but the idea and the metal scraps have paid off.

The team members, all of IBU 582-2 include Leader **BILL STONER**, **DENNIS VLCEK**, **DARRELL ANDERSON**, **GEORGE HOUSE**, **BOB DINSLAGE**, **BOB SUNDELL** and **BOB WAGNER**. Each employee collected 29,800 points when the idea was accepted and when the idea was implemented.

Don't forget to check each day at the plant entrances for new newsletters, safety and benefit fliers. The info is helpful and often quite important, so please don't miss it. If there's a problem, ask your secretary for copies or call **LUCY ALBA-KLUSAW** on ext. 3114. Thanks for your support!



JR Newland meets with Works employees

All-employee meetings are being held with Manufacturing Vice President **JR NEWLAND** during the second and third week of August. The auditorium meetings are designed to take a look at what's going on at the Omaha Works and provide an opportunity to look together toward the future. Check with your supervisor for your department's schedule.

Take care of your customer so he'll come back; and take care of your product so it won't come back—Jeff Wyler

AT&T OMAHA TEAM WORKS

Status report as of August 8, 1990

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Ideas submitted | |
| Tangible | 1,199 |
| Intangible | 616 |
| Ideas Approved | |
| Tangible (approved) | 116 |
| | \$ 826,663.00 |
| Tangible (implemented) | 150 |
| | \$1,811,830.00 |
| Intangible | 259 |
| Ideas Not Approved | |
| Tangible | 592 |
| Intangible | 262 |

When you sling mud, you only end up losing ground.

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT TODAY is a publication of the training and public relations organizations and is compiled by the team of **LINDA ENTERLINE**, **GENE SAAB** and **MERLE DINSLAGE** and is printed in the Omaha Works print shop. To submit story ideas and suggestions, please call ext. 3714.

Fiber backbone makes closed-circuit TV news possible

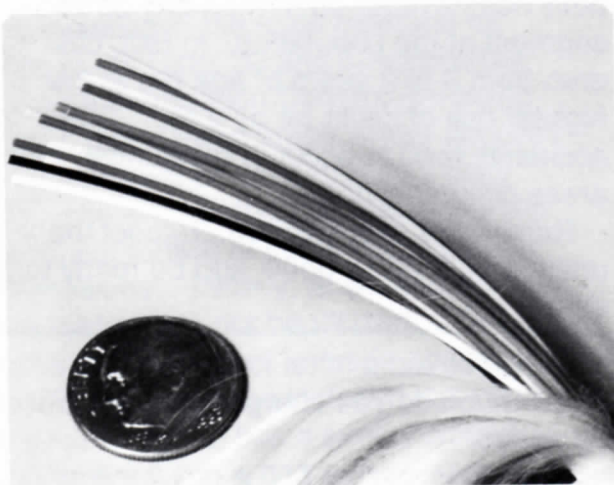
Senior Engineer **ROD CONSER** suggests thinking of a local area network (LAN) like Omaha's as "an information interstate highway running throughout the factory."

Omaha's system (made of fiber optic and copper apparatus like 110 connectors) supports systems which require communication throughout the factory such as closed-circuit TV, a centralized time and attendance system and the material flow control system (MFCS). The system integrates fiber cable made at the Atlanta Works and apparatus products made here at Omaha.

What makes Omaha's backbone special? It's the integrated fiber optic feature. Systems in similar manufacturing facilities are typically coaxial. Conser says fiber allows for "signal reliability and is immune to electromagnetic, radio and power interference. Because fiber uses light pulses, electrical energy has no effect, which enables a higher speed of communication in very little space. This system supports what we're doing today and will also be able to handle the networks of the future."

Amplification isn't required at the Omaha Works because the signal doesn't travel more than 7,000 feet. A coaxial signal would have to be reamplified several times in the same distance.

Conser says "a system like ours put into a customer's building complex would cost in the neighborhood of \$1 million."



Fiber optic cables are made of glass strands the thickness of human hair. The information is carried on pulses of light traveling at the speed of light.

Why is documentation important in the quality process?

by Doug Brake, Omaha Works quality engineer

(This is the second in a series of articles dealing with quality issues at the Omaha Works).

Documentation describing each employee's job, including operations, should be included in the Omaha Works layout system. Auditors will look to see if all instructions are presented in the layout. All handwritten instructions or crib sheets are considered "uncontrolled documents". Each layout book in the shop should include an up-to-date index which reflects the contents of the layout book. Old, out-of-date or temporary layouts should not be in the area. Handwritten changes to a layout can be made but the changes must be made in all layouts and must be signed and dated by the responsible engineer. All handwritten changes must be made permanent no longer than six months from the initial signing and dating.

Control of design changes: A formal design change program must be in place to ensure that all design changes are made in the same way and in a timely manner. The area employees need to know how this system works so that they are informed, can react to those changes and assist in assuring all layout and drawings are changed in the event of a design change.

AT&T unveils a new **EMPLOYEE SALE ON COMPUTERS** on Wednesday, Aug. 15. Check the entrances for fliers & info!!!

Congratulations to the #1 wire draw area in the 50 Bldg. The fine folks in this area were the first to be certified back in mid-1989 and have recently been recertified, which means they passed another complete audit. Certification isn't for forever, don't you know, but is done **EACH** year. Look for specifics in next week's issue.



This and that...

Meet the new Engineering Week Committee!...**DREW LUCAS** (copper), **CURT STEPHANY** (plant and factory), **DAN STAUDT** (EW&C) with **KEVIN PAUBA** (ISD) returning as president. Kevin says the committee is planning technology forums for tech/pros each month, so engineering-types should keep their eyes peeled for the announcements. The early August meeting dealt with Statistical Process Control (SPC) with **ANDREA LONG** of AT&T Bell Labs... **Scotch** Doubles Bowling Tournament is Saturday, Aug. 18. Call the Pioneer office for details... **Tickets** for the Sept. 9 AT&T picnic can be picked up in the auditorium the week of Sept. 4. Ordering ended Aug. 10... **Have** you seen that the construction of the outdoor smoking shelters is well underway? The new smoking policy starts right after Labor Day...shutdown is in three weeks so there's still time to plan a 3-day weekend before school starts again... **Speaking** of school, AT&T's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) is among the best in the city when it comes to providing educational opportunities for all it's employees, not for just some employees. If you're interested in finding out what programs are available under the TAP program, call **CHERE HUNT** x3641 in the Employee Resource Center, LL Bldg. 20 or **MAXINE ALTIC** x3604... **It's** hard to believe that Millard Public and Dist. 66 schools start Wednesday, Aug. 22 and Omaha Public opens Monday, Aug. 27! So if you haven't taken the kids or the grandkids to the zoo and Schramm Park (like you say you're going to do every summer), you'd better get with the program... **Are** you saving those cans for the Pioneer recycling project? It's very important that you do, from both the envi-

ronmental and the charitable ways of looking at things...**Some** dolls still are available to be dressed for the Dress-a-Doll project...Project chair **SYLVIA HEARN** says "I don't want to take 35 more dolls home and dress them. I'm already doing 27!!!" So help Sylvia out by dressing a dollie, will ya?...**Talk** about a power lunch. Keep your noon meal under 500 calories and high in protein if you want to work efficiently for the rest of the day, advises *OFFICE GUIDE*. Because carbohydrates make us feel relaxed or even drowsy, it's better to save them for the evening meal. It's always somethin'! Catch you on the flip-flop...

Drivers need to be extremely cautious. School is starting again.

When children are near any street or motor vehicle traffic, their safety becomes a special consideration. Young children are pedestrian accident victims more often than any other segment of the population. In fact, children from 5 to 9 years of age are at the highest risk of being hit by a car. These accidents tend to occur in residential areas children's home.

Remember with children...Expect the unexpected. Slow down and be ready to stop.

Expect the unexpected with children!



A man called a hotel for information. "How much do you charge for a room?" he asked.

"Our rates start at \$50 a day," the clerk announced.

"Do you take children?"

"No, sir" the clerk responded. "Only cash or a major credit card."