

## Preferred parking for perfect attendance

Over 195 represented employees of the Omaha Works will enjoy the use of privileged parking facilities in recognition of their outstanding attendance performance. These employees have not missed a work day in six years or more.

Manufacturing Operations Director JIM ANDRY says "We have many people at the Omaha Works who strive to come to work everyday and **we're proud of that.** I think there's an unawareness on the part of employees of how many people really do have perfect attendance. This is our way of saying thanks."

Blue lines have been painted in the preferred parking areas to designate the parking stalls which have been set aside for the program. The blue lines reserve spaces that are nearest the plant entrances in the four parking lots (2 shop and 2 office). Preferred parkers have been issued a privileged parking pass which is valid for one year and is to be displayed in the front window of their vehicle.

Unauthorized employees parking within the blue lines will be ticketed for the parking violation.

The program was the result of the work of a committee comprised of IBEW Local 1974 and management officials.

Local IBEW 1974 President **FRANK**

## Employee Involvement

*Today*



August 6  
1990

Omaha  
Works

**AT&T** Issue 18

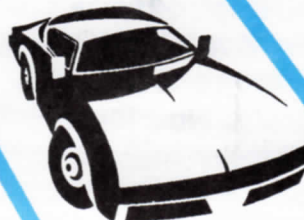
**POSSINGER** thinks "it's remarkable that we have the number of individuals that are fortunate enough to have perfect attendance."

Committee members have been working since last year to develop this proposal and have various comments:

Operator **TOM PALLAS**, IBU 592-3 thinks "I've seen a change for the better. The management people are acknowledging (an employee's) perfect attendance (anniversary) on the date, not after the fact. The people really take notice of that."

Supervisor **CHARITY SMITH**, IBU 596-8 feels "We normally deal with the bad ones and ignore those with good attendance. Now this parking is an incentive for those without perfect attendance." Operator and Union Rep **EDIE RIESTER**, IBU 592 feels that "a lot of people are embarrassed by the fact they have perfect attendance. They shouldn't be embarrassed. They should be proud of it. And as a committee, we want to recognize this whole group of people and not single anyone out." Supervisor **JOHN TOMPKINS**, IBU 552, thinks "this idea is an effective reward for

(Continued on page 2, column 1)



**Perfect  
Attendance  
Preferred  
Parking**



**LUCY ALBA-KLUSAW** reminds everyone that the stationery store in the lower level of Bldg. 20 has been moved from the west end to an area in the north hallway directly across from the print shop. Store hours are 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. If you have problems, ask Lucy and her folks for assistance.

The person who has lost his sense of humor rides through life in a wagon without springs. He feels every jolt and every rock.

### AT&T Omaha Team Works is going strong!

Status report as of August 2, 1990

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Ideas submitted           |             |
| Tangible                  | 1,138       |
| Intangible                | 586         |
| Ideas Approved            |             |
| Tangible (approved)       | 117         |
|                           | \$866,392   |
| Tangible (implemented)    | 138         |
|                           | \$1,704,836 |
| Intangible                | 168         |
| Ideas Not Approved        |             |
| Tangible                  | 583         |
| Intangible                | 250         |
| Performance shares issued |             |
| Tangible                  | 43,308,898  |
| Intangible                | 2,710,000   |

Parking (continued from page 1)  
those with perfect attendance." Supervisor KEITH ROGERS, Dept. 511, agrees "it's encouraging to find out that we have so many people with perfect attendance."

JOHN SCHWENCK, Dept. 521 "I'm happy that some steps have been taken to show that perfect attendance is an important item here at the plant. Now I feel there are many other improvements that can and should be done."



## Shop Talk

by Cid Stinson, trainer

What do you do with 70,000 pounds of tin wire slated to be scrapped? You put your heads together and come up with the idea to rerun the wire through the tin plater and use it for the ground wire.

This \$61,400 saving resulted from a unique team idea. Two teams—one headed by **CAROL SOBY**, IBU 511-2 and the other one led by **BRIAN MISCHKE**, IBU 511—have combined brain power to submit this idea as well as 15 others in the OMAHA TEAM WORKS program.

**BOB KOSTER**, layout operator in central plating, was instrumental in submitting this idea, one of seven involving the central plating area. Bob was quick to point out "this idea, like all of their successes, was a team effort."

According to Soby, the suggestion program was "a big help in learning a great deal about how the Omaha Works operates." The research necessary to prepare, present and support a coherent idea provides an "insider" perspective.

Koster also advises that all teams follow up on an idea they know is workable. He also says don't accept rejection and most of all, persistence pays off.

**CAROL SOBY's**, 511-2, team members include: **STEVE BALES**, 781; **HARRY ESCH**, 511; **BOB KOSTER**, 551; **GENE LAKE**, 771; **BILL MALY**, 511; **GUS STEPHAN**, 551; and **ROBERT WRIGHT**, 721. **BRIAN MISCHKE's**, 511, team members are: **CHARLES FERGUSON**, 551; **JERRY GLENN**, 721; **LARRY JOSOFF**, 781; **KARI OEHME**, 771; **CHET SEARS**, 511; **RON SIWA**, 511; AND **ERNIE WESOLOWSKI**, 511.

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.



## Radon knocks at your floor



Invisible, tasteless and odorless, radon rises up through soil and is released into the earth's atmosphere. It is a natural gas produced in the earth from decaying radioactive uranium. Although radon is almost always present in the air we breathe, it ordinarily dissipates to harmless levels in the outdoor environment. What makes radon dangerous is its tendency to gather in significant concentrations inside buildings. If inhaled at high levels over time, radon can increase the risk of lung cancer. In fact, because of its radioactivity, radon is now considered one of today's most dangerous environmental hazards. It's estimated nearly 400 of every 100,000 people in the U.S. will die of radon-related lung cancer.

Radon enters homes and buildings because of a suction effect between indoor and outdoor air pressures. Gases such as radon are drawn up from the soil into buildings through foundation or basement cracks, drains and pipes. Radon usually dissipates before it reaches the second or third floor.

Commercial radon testing kits are available to see if radon is present in dangerous levels in your home. Radon can be reduced if you ventilate the basement and lower levels of buildings where the gas concentrates and seal the basement or foundation openings where radon can enter. Perhaps the most effective radon-reduction method, however, is to draw radon gas from under the building's foundation before it has a chance to enter. To do this, drill into the foundation and hook up two pipes to an outside fan.

For more information on radon gas, call the Nebraska State Health Department at 1-800-334-9491.

## Let's talk quality, from shop floor to shop floor



*Shop to shop... (l. to r.) AT&T's SUE TORPY and TONY DAVID discuss BEP metal fab parts with Aljohn shop people DOUG O'GREEN, JIM GROSSINGER, DON LINGWALL and CLINT SCHULTZ*

Seven shop foremen and lead men from **ALJOHN TOOL, INC.**, of suburban Minneapolis visited the shop floor of Omaha's building entrance protector (BEP) area in late July to discuss how the two companies can work together to improve the supplier/vendor relationship.

Aljohn, the first vendor to become certified by the Omaha Works over one year ago, supplies two truckloads of metal fabrication parts each week that AT&T uses to make building entrance protectors.

Aljohn production people came to Omaha with two objectives in mind: to see how Aljohn's metal parts are used in Omaha products and to see what Aljohn could do to help Omaha improve the quality of our BEP product line. Omaha Works operators and Engineer **TONY DAVID** were able to discuss very specific quality concerns directly with Aljohn's operators who make the metal parts.

As a certified vendor, Aljohn has demonstrated superior product quality and service. Aljohn materials are shipped directly to Omaha's shop floor without undergoing inspection. The Omaha Works does a routine mini-audit of all certified vendors each year.



## Why do we conduct quality audits?

by JULIE MICKLAVZINA and DOUG BRAKE, Omaha Works quality engineers

(This article is the first in a series dealing with quality issues at the Omaha Works.)

One very popular method for determining the quality of suppliers is to look at their quality system (how the supplier assures that the customer is getting quality parts). As customers, we audit our suppliers for quality. In turn, our customers audit the quality of our products.

Quality System Audits are becoming a way of life at the Omaha Works. We use quality system audits in the certification program for internal improvements. Our customers also use them to evaluate our quality system and more broadly, our manufacturing facility.

The Omaha Works faces some significant audits this summer and fall. The EW&C SBU will be audited by Belden Cable and Wire on Tuesday, Aug. 21. Bellcore and Bell Operating Companies auditors will be auditing the Works in early October.

The commitment to quality must come from every member of the team as we work together to promote quality improvement. Our goal is to become quality-conscious, from the shop floor to the management offices. How do we do that? Through training, quality improvement team meetings, commitment and hard work.

Next week...documentation, layouts and drawings.

**Congratulations to all the  
OMAHA TEAM WORKS  
team players!  
The Omaha Works  
has realized**

**\$2,500,000**

**in savings!**

## Look for some changes coming soon in the mail distribution system

*Employee Involvement Today*, *The Westerner*, *Safety Awareness Fact Sheets*, *ETOP* and benefit information will no longer be distributed by first-level supervisors or secretaries. This information will be placed in racks at the entrances to be picked up by the employee, as has been the case with the *Weoma Newsletter*. Each departmental secretary will have a copy of everything on hand and will be glad to make a copy of a bulletin or sheet for an absent employee.

Additional racks are now being made to handle this new distribution system and will soon be in place.

All employees are asked to take increased responsibility for picking up the information. With everyone's help, this system will save time and labor and assure that everyone receives all the information. Problems or questions? Call **LUCY ALBA-KLUSAW** on ext. 3114.

So let's give it a go and see if we can also avoid cutting down some trees in the process!

## DUAL CAREER FAMILY

When he brings home the bacon,  
she fries it.

When she brings home the bacon, too,  
they eat out.

—Natasha Josefowitz

Little Tommie came home from Sunday School very excited about the story of the Creation; but, a couple of days later he seemed very upset about something. When his mother asked what was wrong, he said, "Mom, one of my ribs hurts. I think I'm about to have a wife."