



Common Ground

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President's Message

September, 2009

by Kevin Duncan

We are well on our way to rounding out what appears to be a great 2009. I would like to reflect briefly on all that our Local Chapter has accomplished so far.

Our Annual Membership Dinner and Chapter Meeting was held on March 9th at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel and Suites in Bloomington. Our guest speaker was John Kinnear of IBM, Poughkeepsie. John's technical presentation provided a detailed look into a 2008 Factory and Materials Symposium Paper, "Process Capability and Transitional Analysis".

We held our Regional Tutorial Program on May 5th & 6th in conjunction with the ESDA Summer Standards Meetings at the Minneapolis Hilton. Our local chapter had four tutorial offerings during this meeting series: ESD Basics for the Program Manager, How To's of In-Plant ESD Auditing and Evaluation Measurement, System Level ESD/EMI: Testing to IEC and Other Standards and Device Technology and FA Overview. We had twenty-one attendees. One of which was Merle Weight, our Local Chapter Tutorial Drawing winner.

In June we met in Redwood Falls, MN, where we held a small golf event at the Redwood Falls Golf Club followed by a great plant tour and presentation at Daktronics.

Our September Meeting was held at Conductive Containers Incorporated (CCI) in New Hope, MN. We enjoyed a plant tour and presentation on

"Testing of Packaging Materials to ESDA Standards".

Our December Meeting will be held at Data Sciences, where we will enjoy an overview of Data Science Products as well as a plant tour. Our officer elections will also take place during this meeting.

We will have held three of our four meetings this year hosted by Local Chapter Members. This is a large part of the reason that we as a Chapter have continued to thrive. It is the continued support of our Local Chapter Members that allows us to host meetings on a regular basis and to bring in guest speakers, all while maintaining costs and growing our membership base. We are currently sixty-five members strong, making us one of the largest and most active Local Chapters.

I want to thank you the Local Chapter Members, for your continued support and participation. I am definitely looking forward to seeing what the rest of the year will bring. Hope to see you there.

2009 Chapter Meeting & Event Schedule

Tim Jarrett – Program Chairperson

December 7th - Chapter Meeting
Host Site: Data Sciences International
119 14th Street NW, New Brighton, MN 55112
(NW corner of 35W and 694)
Technical Topic: Data Sciences Overview and
Tour, Open Topic Discussion

Additional meeting details will follow via e-mail announcements. If you are not on the chapter's list, please contact Tim Jarrett [tim.jarrett@bsci.com]

We strongly encourage all chapter members to consider hosting a future meeting. In addition, if you have a static related control topic you'd like the local board to cover during a future meeting, please contact Tim or any of the Chapter Board members.

Membership

by Bernie Reiland

The current membership is at 66, an increase of one. Frank Vrtis from TEK Products joined this past month. Welcome Frank. We also will begin to accept American Express Credit Cards anytime during the year. No monthly cost and only a small fee to process one. We will start accepting 2010 anytime now. A letter for renewal will be sent out in January.

Secretary's Report

September 28, 2009 Chapter Meeting

by Kevin Leonard

The meeting was held at Conductive Containers Incorporated in New Hope.

4:00 pm Sign in and social time.

4:45 pm Kevin Duncan called the meeting to order requesting reports from the officers.

Secretary's Report: Kevin Leonard summarized the minutes from the June meeting which was held at Daktronics in Redwood Falls, MN. There was a brief company history given by Steve Suedbeck followed by a tour of the facility.

Treasurer's Report: Craig Zander reported that the chapter is on target for reaching the projected \$300.00 to \$700.00 annual deficit after the expenses for the quarterly meeting are paid.

Membership Chair's Report: Kevin Duncan reported there are currently 65 members and the make up is 43 users and 22 vendors.

National Delegate Report: Dale Parkin recapped the highlights of the standards meeting 8/27 through 8/30 at Disneyland in Anaheim, Ca. This was followed by the ESD Symposium that spanned from 8/30 through 9/4. The Symposium was well attended with approximately 300

attendees. There were 28 tutorials, 10 workshops, and 9 technical sessions. The next meeting is the February standards meeting in Sparks, NV February 25th through March 2nd.

Program Chair Report: Tim Jarrett reported the December meeting location is tentatively scheduled for Data Science hosted by Bernie Reiland. The meeting date is slated for December 7th. We are still looking for a March meeting site which may be the Airport Holiday Inn Select.

Website Editor Report: Tom Lee recapped the website content.

New Business: Kevin Duncan reminded the group that elections are coming up for the December meeting. Nominees are requested for the Secretary and Vice President Positions.

The chapter needs to make a decision by October 23rd on whether we are participating with a regional tutorial or not. The recommendation was hosting a 2 day tutorial that would include the program manager and the device design in parallel.

5:00 pm: Kevin Leonard recapped the minutes of the meeting and the business meeting was adjourned.

5:05 pm: Box lunch dinner was served.

5:40 pm: Brad Ahlm presented a brief history of CCI spanning from the beginning in 1978 till 1993 when Brad and Paul Granning purchased the company up until present. He touched on the fact that CCI is a manufacturer that focuses solely on ESD products. A plant tour followed.

6:15 pm: Kevin Duncan presented his paper titled "Testing Packaging to ESDS Standards". Kevin reviewed the definitions and differences between standards, standard practices, test methods, advisories, and technical reports.

The demonstration portion of the presentation covered testing for surface charge, surface

resistance measurements of flat surfaces, volume resistance, two point resistance and ESD shielding bags.

He summarized that you need to choose the correct method for evaluating packaging materials to be compliant with proper ESD safe packaging.

7:05 pm: Kevin Duncan concluded the meeting.